



## REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST/ECHOES OF THE FUTURE

by Robert Knapp

*The Central Sierra Historical Society's mission is to celebrate the historical significance of the Central Sierra and to become an educational center for the region.*

*This program is just the beginning.*

The Central Sierra Historical Society is proud to announce the beginning of our Partnership in Education Program for the 2013/2014 school year. The museum at Shaver Lake will be the center of activity for two days each month, beginning in September and concluding in May, as we partner with three elementary school districts in our area: Big Creek and Pine Ridge Districts, and Foothill Elementary, in Sierra Unified School District.

A group of educators gathered at the museum in June and began the planning. It was decided that we would focus on fourth graders for the initial year. Five 4th grade teachers, three from Foothill and one



each from Pine Ridge and Big Creek, spent many hours meeting, planning and creating a vibrant curriculum, anchored in the current fourth grade standards and the new common core standards, focused on the history and natural resources of the Central Sierra. Six topics were selected starting with September, Native Americans; October, Geology and Mining; November, Logging and its effect on Natural Resources; January, The San Joaquin and Eastern Railroad; February, Stockmen: grazing in the high country and the Forest Service; March, Hydro Power; and in April, Content Review and preparation time for students to prepare for their student project presentations which will occur in May.

Each month, for two days, 50 students, teachers, and parents will arrive at the museum. One class from Foothill and one class each from Big Creek and Pine Ridge will attend the first day and two classes from Foothill will attend the second day. Each day will begin at 9:00 a.m. with an introduction describing the expected outcomes for the day. Four groups of 10 -12 students will rotate through four Learning Stations located on the grounds of the museum. After lunch these same groups of students will attend a Project Station in which they are given an opportunity to focus on what type of final project they would like to use to demonstrate their learning in a presentation in May at the museum. Each day will conclude with a whole group debrief and sharing prior to boarding the busses at 2:00 p.m.

*(Continued*

## NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

Members and Friends:

Our organization has achieved extraordinary success far beyond our imagination of just five years ago. We all, of course, wanted to see a successful museum but what we have accomplished is very invigorating and satisfying. While the obvious large successes such as the Redinger Pow-erhouse lead the way, it is the small steps of education and exhibits that are ultimately the reason for the public visiting, enjoying and supporting the programs.

We have reached a significant plateau in our growth and timeline and must now revisit our mission and how we are to achieve our future. Fundraising is always the necessary backbone of a donor supported private non-profit community benefit organization. In addition, as a small community that is outside of the travel ways it is difficult to take the giant steps needed to become a recognized and viable point of interest.

We of the Shaver Lake area and larger central Sierra and Central Valley region have a tremendous story to tell. We represent every natural resource use that has occurred around our nation. We can demonstrate our history as a representation of how and how not to use our resources. While history is our story, the future is predicated on learning from that history.

Our future is in telling that story for future generations. As can be seen in the articles of this newsletter we are off and running in accomplishing the vision, mission, and objectives, of our Society. The Board of Directors has committed to advance on to the next plateau. Let us continue.

Thanks to everyone.

John R. Mount, President  
Board of Directors

## VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS HONORED AT SPECIAL APPRECIATION EVENT

*Approximately 5,000 hours are logged yearly by our volunteers. Their time and talents truly make a difference in CSHS operations, allowing us to be more efficient and cost-effective.*

Tuesday evening, September 10 was a beautiful night to thank all our volunteers and supporters who generously gave their time, energy and talents to the Historical Society in 2013. The evening began at 5:30 with a reception in the Native American Encampment, followed by a BBQ at the Steam Donkey. Ice Cream Sundaes were served in the museum's media room, where Board President, John Mount, thanked the over 70 people in attendance for their services. The evening festivities were planned by Dona Mount and Linda Clague, with the help of the Board of Directors at each site.

As a volunteer organization, we are always in need of volunteers who will help us to carry out our mission in preserving the region's history. You don't have to be a Shaver Lake resident to contribute your talent, and no experience is necessary – we will be glad to show you what to do and you will have a good time doing it. Many of our volunteers have been with us for many years and have enjoyed the fellowship of like-minded people.

Please call the museum at 841-4478 to inquire how you can help..

## ANOTHER SUCCESS FOR SUMMER CHILDREN'S CRAFTS

As reported in our last newsletter, children's crafts projects were offered again this summer. Children visiting the Museum had the opportunity to participate in two craft projects. One project was to string beads and Native American icons to make necklaces. Coordinators of the project, Shirley Kepler and Judy Statler, report over 370 necklaces were made this past summer. The other project was to construct a Stellar Blue Jay out of paper and then attach it to a stick to imitate flight.

Because the Native American necklaces have been such a huge hit the past two summers we have decided to continue making them next summer. The second project next year will involve Monarch Butterflies. Parents and grandparents loved the idea that they could visit the Museum exhibits while their children were engaged in challenging and fun activities.

## RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Congratulations to the two winners of the Museum's summer-long raffle prizes. Myra Fullerton of Chatsworth, CA, won the Julie Skaff slate worth \$100 and Patrick Goulet of Clovis won the Ted Reckas photo worth \$300. Tickets were \$1/each or 6/\$5 and the winning tickets were drawn Sunday, September 1.

Watch for our Spring 2014 newsletter for the announcement of next summer's prize.

*Echoes of the Future (Continued from page 1)*

Session Number 1, in September, focused on Native Americans of the Central Sierra. The specific topics for the four learning stations were, "Food, Medicines, and Natural Resources"; "Tools and Trading"; "Shelters and Migration"; and "Storytelling, Drumming, Music and Dance". These stations will change each month depending on the area of study. The afternoon project stations will remain the same, and the groups of students will attend a different project station each month. These include: PowerPoint Training; Narrative Writing; Plant, Tree, and Rock Handbook; Poetry Handbook; Historical Lapbook; and Script Writing Workshop.

## RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA PRINT OR E-MAIL

Our first effort at sending our newsletter by e-mail proved to be a big success. Approximately 1/3 of our mailing list chose to receive it by e-mail. The feedback was overwhelming. We heard that the newsletter was easier to read, and that those who wanted to read it on paper simply printed it out.

We have e-mail addresses for some members and some non-members. Recognizing that our list is not complete, we are asking for your help. If you would like to receive future newsletters by e-mail, simply send your address to [cshsmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:cshsmuseum@gmail.com). Mention "newsletter" in the subject line.

In addition to receiving your newsletter in advance of those in the mail, you are saving the Historical Society many dollars in printing and shipping costs.

## EDISON INTERNATIONAL AWARDS GRANT FOR THE PARTNERSHIP IN EDUCATION PROGRAM (PEP)

The Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum is very pleased to announce the award of a year 2013 community grant from Edison International designated towards the Partnership In Education Program (PEP).

The 2013 grant of \$5,000 will help fund the costs of student transportation, academic planning, and construction of exhibits and projects covered by CSHS.

The Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum Board of Directors and the many volunteers associated with this program are very grateful for the generosity of Edison International.

Edison International has been a long time supporter of this Historical Society, with several grant awards given over past years.

## OSPREY II - THE PRIDE OF THE CENTRAL SIERRA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By Steve Merrill

On Friday, September 13, 2013, several Museum Docents were introduced to that beautiful wooden boat that has graced the Museum's "back room" for quite some time. They toured Shaver Lake aboard this unique 17-foot sparkling treasure. In fact, the 'legend' of the Osprey II is a story of family, long friendship histories, craftsmanship, and generosity.



The Osprey II is a handcrafted wooden boat created between 2002 and 2009, by legendary wooden boat builder, Jim Crockett, of North Fork. Originally commissioned by Jim Woodward of Fresno for family use, it was later donated to the Museum in honor of the men and women of years gone by that depended on similar boats to work at the Shaver Mill.

The Osprey II, a Motor Cruiser, has a cruising speed of 6 knots, and can carry five adults with ease. Its original plans were drawn in 1947 and published in "Wooden Boats Anyone Can Build". The details and equipment in this vessel are top notch in every way.

Several Museum volunteers are in the process of obtaining "license for hire" certification from the California Department of Boats and Waterways so it can fulfill its purpose; to honor the valiant residents and laborers of the past, even as the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum does with the loggers, the pioneers, the builders, and the engineers who made Shaver Lake and the entire Central Sierra what it is today.

## **BLACK POT COOKERS DO IT AGAIN!**

Once again this year the High Sierra Black Pot event held at the Shaver Lake Fishing Club on August 3 was a huge success. Guests, musicians, cooks and helpers totaled 250. The event coordinator, Heather Sullivan, thanks all who participated.

Proceeds from tickets, donations and raffle tickets brought in \$26,469 and the costs were low because of generous donations by the Fishing Club and the McDonald Family, leaving \$25,454 in net proceeds to benefit the CSHS Building and Exhibit Fund for this year. A special thank you is extended to Bob & Sue Johnson, coordinators of the "cookers".

### **HISTORY OF THE SHAVER LAKE FISHING CLUB**

The Shaver Lake Fishing Club was conceived in the summer of 1902, when two Fresno businessmen, General M.W. Muller and Major J. Ed Hughes, both officers in the state militia, had a great time fishing the Shaver Mill pond with a few friends. The next year, the outing had grown to over 20 fishermen, and in 1904, the Shaver Lake Fishing Club was officially organized with 22 charter members. There were no accommodations at the millpond, but tents belonging to the state militia miraculously appeared along the shore, along with professional chefs. A crude bar was constructed and thoroughly stocked.

In 1905, the Shaver Sawmill partners, C. B. Shaver and Harvey Swift provided land and built the first clubhouse. Since then, fire, wind and heavy snows have destroyed three clubhouses but have never affected the popularity and the rich traditions of the group. The Shaver Lake Fishing Club continues in existence today, and many of the present members are descendants of the founders. The original cabins and the site of the last clubhouse, marked by a lone standing fireplace and chimney, are located on the southeast shore of the lake in the area where the Shaver Lake Railroad once dropped logs in the old millpond. Nine cabins and the old cookhouse still surround the old clubhouse site. Gatherings still happen at the location, and hospitality and camaraderie continue to thrive.

Today's club members still swap lies about the big ones that got away and the rustic habits of their predecessors. The club is now active in aiding the Historical Society by way of holding the annual Black Pot Cook-off every first Saturday in August.

The High Sierra Black Pot Cookers formed about 18 years ago when a few friends took a black pot cooking class. The group has since expanded and regularly get together for fun and good food. The technique of cooking meals in a covered pot buried in hot coals grew out of necessity. Life in the Old West was rough and rugged. There were long stretches of time spent outdoors with little more than wood coals to cook over. Frontier settlers, cowboys and railroad workers used cast iron Dutch ovens to cook everything from stews to baked goods. Now, over 160 years later, the art of black pot cooking invites competition among back country chefs and cowboy cooks. Meat becomes tender, juicy and infused with all the flavors that the cook throws into the pot. Baked goods are crispy and stews are tantalizing.

The Black Pot Cook Off is held the first Saturday in August. Invitations are sent out in July and reservations are a must.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO BIG CREEK!**

Everybody affiliated with the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum wishes to extend a big CONGRATULATIONS to the entire town of Big Creek on their centennial celebration this year. This includes the school and the Big Creek Powerhouse 1.

Southern California Edison hosted a day of celebration on October 3. Presentations were made, followed by lunch. Tours of the town, new facilities, the powerhouse, and the machine shop were made available.

Thank you Kristie Crimm at SCE for all your hard work on making the day such a great event. Big Creek School hosted a festival day of tours of the school and fun events the following Saturday.

The residents of the town of Big Creek have reason to be proud!

### **PRESERVE CENTRAL SIERRA HISTORY BY BECOMING A MEMBER!**

Become a MEMBER of the Central Sierra Historical Society and Museum and explore our unique cultural history. Your membership helps to preserve the museum collection, to maintain and improve the museum and its exhibits, and to provide our community with educational programs, exhibitions and engaging social activities. Membership begins at \$20! Your membership is tax deductible. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

## **GIRL SCOUT PARTNERSHIP**

By Linda Clague

In recent months, the Museum of the Central Sierra and Girl Scouts of Central California South have been working to develop a partnership. The goal of the two organizations is to create a relationship that will be mutually beneficial. Planning is in the early stages but both groups are optimistic that some exciting things will be happening in the near future. Linda Cottingham of Shaver Lake has a long history of Scouting, and CSHS is grateful that she has agreed to act as liaison for the society in planning activities and programs with Girl Scouts.

The first two groups of Girl Scouts visited the museum on October 20, 2013. They toured the indoor and outdoor exhibits at the museum and participated in hikes on the Interpretive Trail, led by John Mount.

The Sierra Steamers were operating the Steam Donkey exhibit and the Powerhouse was operational. It was a perfect day for the Scout's first visit. Among the Scouts that day were several older girls exploring leadership opportunities at the Museum of the Central Sierra. This partnership holds great hope for the future for both organizations.

## **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CRAFTS AT THE MUSEUM!**



Once again, v.e.s.t. member Connie Amesbury is coordinating children's Christmas crafts at the museum. From 11:00 to 2:00 on Friday, November 29 and Saturday, November 30, we will be helping children decorate pinecones with peanut butter and seed for the birds and making garlands out of cheerios and colored fruit snacks. They will have the option of decorating the museum tree or taking their crafts home with them. All supplies are furnished. This is fun for the whole family - - there isn't an age limit!

## **SIERRA VOICES 2013**

by Robert Knapp

The fourth season of Sierra Voices has once again been very successful. The word is out: the place to be on the second Saturday of the month (May – October) is at the museum at Shaver Lake listening to presenters who have a deep connection to the history and preservation of the central Sierra.

The Central Sierra Historical Society hosts these presentations at our beautiful museum located adjacent to Camp Edison on the shores of Shaver Lake. The mission of the Society is to enrich the cultural and educational experiences of the visitors to the central Sierra Nevada by deepening their understanding of the human and natural history of the area. The museum's exhibits highlight three regions, alpine, forest and foothill; and the Sierra Voices programs attempt to cover each in our selection of presenters.

The fourth season began in May with Jeff Young presenting an historical portrait of Shaver Lake in the early 1900's. Supported by early photos and Jeff's insightful narrative, early Shaver Lake was celebrated. Our June presenter was Andy MacMillan from the Edison Hydro Division at Big Creek, who gave us a detailed, historical look at the development of the "Dawning of the Hydroelectric Age" and how the natural assets of the Central Sierra were essential in that development. In July, Darinda Otto, who grew up alongside the S.J. and E. railroad bed, and who operates a museum at the original station near Big Creek, described the historical significance of the building of the railroad, and how essential it was to the development of Big Creek and the current hydro project.

The topic for August was "Rocks, Caves, and Mines of the Central Sierra" and due to a last minute change, Jeff Young stepped in and presented an informative and entertaining look at rock formations and the local mines in the area.

In September, Sierra Voices had two presentations. On Labor Day, the Davis family from Auberry, demonstrated how the earliest residents of the Central Sierra have used the natural resources to sustain their lifestyle for centuries. On September 14th, Dr. Brian Clague, described the relationship of plants to their environment and how man has been able to identify and use plants to sustain and enhance the quality of life.

Finishing the 2013 series on October 12, Alvin Gould, nationally known saddlemaker and leather artisan, talked about his 35 years of creating custom made pieces which include saddles, tack, gun belts, and other creative leather goods.

Next spring will be our fifth year and we are looking forward to providing more presenters who will continue to highlight the unique qualities of the three regions of the central Sierra. Be sure and check our website sometime in March for the list of presenters for 2014.

## GUIDED INTERPRETIVE WALKS OFFERED AT THE MUSEUM

Last summer volunteers built a unique trail behind the museum. Scheduled guided interpretive walks were held in August, September and October beginning at 9:00 a.m. Volunteer trail guides were Marcia Swinger, Meg Tallberg, Linda Clague and Terry Ogden. We look forward to resuming these walks next year and hope you will join us. It is an easy to moderate hike, approximately ¼ mile. You should allow 1-1/2 hours, as you will make stops along the way. Watch our calendar on the website for when the walks will resume.

## NEW WILDLIFE DISPLAYS IN THE MUSEUM

The Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum was gifted with several wildlife displays by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Among the mounts is a feral pig head (Boar) mount, a bobcat shoulder mount, and a coyote shoulder mount. In addition, there are several deer mounts and several antler rack mounts. We are very grateful to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for donating these displays to us.

Also new in the museum is a wonderful bird nest display, put together by Dona Mount. These are actual nests found in our area. Included in the collection are large wasp nests, donated by local residents, and nests found by SCE Wildlife Biologists.



## AMPHITHEATER IS SITE FOR SUMMER CONCERT SERIES “FRIDAY IN THE PINES”

by Katie Blanchard

The *Friday in the Pines* Concert Series for 2013 began this past June with storyteller, songwriter, actor, Jimmy Collier. Jimmy easily engaged the audience with his grass roots “good ol’ time” singing, and storytelling, making it easy to clap along. The amphitheater presented a perfect venue for picnicking, relaxing, and enjoying the first of many future concerts to be held there.

July’s *Fridays in the Pines* concert hosted an encore presentation of classical guitar music with Anson Brown, Carlos Vasquez and Nam Duone. Their knowledge of the classical music and of each specific type of guitar used has been an entertaining part of the appeal of their concert.

“Tipperary Stew” filled the amphitheater with traditional Irish and Americana music and dance in August. This family of performers includes Noel on the guitar and vocals; Patricia playing Irish whistles, the Bodhran (a traditional Irish Drum), and vocals; with daughters singing and dancing. Their Americana music included Bob Dylan, Gordon Lightfoot, and Pink Floyd.



Concluding this year’s series was “The Excursions Band”. Filling a September’s chilly evening was a five member ensemble that played Classic Rock, Jazz and the Blues.

The museum is busy planning the *Friday in the Pines* 2014 concert calendar. Our concerts are marked to be held on the last Friday of June-August (subject to change) with September’s TBA. Chairs, blankets, food and drinks will continue to be welcomed.

The Board of Directors is continuing to make revisions throughout the museum, amphitheater included. Your kind donations have made this a possibility. Stay tuned for artist performance, as well as additional amphitheater announcements in the spring of 2014.

## ARE YOU A MEMBER?

*Membership sustains the Museum of the Central Sierra*

## **SCE CURRENT AND RETIRED EMPLOYEES, TAKE NOTE**

As reported in the last newsletter, Southern California Edison Company employees, current and past, can financially support the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum through the SCE Employee Volunteer Incentive Grant Program. This program is available through SCE's parent company, Edison International.

You can request a cash grant up to \$600 per year representing your hours of volunteer service. These hours do not need to be done at the museum, but you can designate your grant to the Historical Society. Be sure to log your hours by the end of the year and submit your Edison International grant request. It can be done online, or by a simple phone call to them. We are already in Edison's system as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Several current and retired SCE employees have taken advantage of this program and designated CSHS as the receiver of the grant. Please consider it. Remember, giving back also includes volunteering!

## **HAVE YOU VENTURED INTO THE MUSEUM'S MEDIA ROOM?**

The media room in the museum is often referred to as the meeting room, or the conference room, or simply the back room. However, it is more than that. There are a few items of note in there. The walls are lined with Dr. Brian Clague's exhibit about the local trees and plants that Indians used for medicinal purposes. The pictures are labeled and note what the medicine was used for.



## **CSHS ANNOUNCES NEW PLEDGE DRIVE TO FUND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION**

CSHS Board Members John Mount and Walt Reinhardt are coordinating a fundraising effort for a much needed position of Executive Director. The drive hopes to raise \$250,000. At this time the Board has set aside \$50,000 in the Executive Director Fund. This position will allow more visibility as well as to raise funding for the planned activities over the next decades.

Thank you to the following members who (as of this writing) have pledged:

Curtis & Joyce Cole

Rob Hayden

Darrell Hickman

Thomas McGowan

Shaver Lake Chamber of Commerce

Shaver Lake Sports/Shaver Lake Marina

Bud & Mary Spickler

H T & Elizabeth Sullivan

Peter & Cissy Van Vleet

Thanks also to the several other members who have wished to remain anonymous.

As of this press date, the total pledged, not including the \$50,000 noted above, is \$54,501. **THANK YOU!**

You can create a 5-year pledge to the Executive Director position. Please contact the museum office at 841-4478 for assistance. Your financial contributions are essential to maintain the stability and expansion of the programs and displays available to visitors.

Many visitors have commented on the beauty of the safe, manufactured by the Victor Safe & Lock Company, now on display in the media room. It is an exquisite example of a turn-of-the-century safe.

Donated by Clovis Community Bank in 2000, it was originally used in the L.W. Gibson Store, built in Clovis in 1898 by Lewis Gibson, first mayor of Clovis.

The safe was acquired by the Bob Bretz Family in 1916, and used in the Bretz Brothers Store at the Bretz Mill in Shaver Lake until 1942. Mrs. Bretz donated the historical treasure to Clovis Community Bank upon the sale of the family home.

# SPECIAL THANK YOUS

*Several volunteers & supporters heard our calls for help this summer. Here are just a few:*

- ◆ **Allan Blackstill** – Handcrafted pencils and donated them to the museum. All proceeds are designated towards the Musick Mountain Steam Donkey Restoration Project.
- ◆ **Gordon Bone** – Made three beautiful photo frames for pictures hanging in the museum.
- ◆ **Borga Steel Buildings & Components** – Donated pan decking to construct a roof on the cook shed at the Shaver Lake Fishing Club.
- ◆ **Roger Coats** – Donated ten of his book “My Sierras” to the museum for sale in the gift shop.
- ◆ **John Dark** – Donated a Circa 1890’s cabinet that was removed from a home at the Shaver Lake Sawmill town before it was burned and flooded for the new Shaver Lake. It was inherited from his mother, Barbara Simmons Dark, who received it from her father, Allen Simmons.
- ◆ **Bill Edlund, Cascada Cabinets** – Spent approximately 100 hours building an information booth at the Steam Donkey Engine.
- ◆ **Al & Faith Hastings** – Donated engineering books belonging to Mrs. Hastings. These books are now on exhibit in the powerhouse.
- ◆ **Phyllis & Dale Houdashelt** – Spent several hours building a door to the information booth at the Steam Donkey Engine.
- ◆ **Don, Steve & Janet Gillett** – Donated an original China Peak ski lift chair and restored by **Robbie & Lisa Mount**.
- ◆ **Norm Kato, Shaver Coffee & Deli** – Donated two deli trays for our Volunteer & Supporter Evening held September 10, 2013.
- ◆ **Alice & Robert Knapp** – Donated a freezer chest for the Ice Cream Social.
- ◆ **Doug Koerper** – Donated countless hours overseeing the completion of our Redinger Powerhouse No. 1 exhibit. In addition to the powerhouse, Doug donates his time, talent and equipment whenever needed at the museum.
- ◆ **Connie Lingerfelt** – Donated 3 Indian Baskets and 2 Indian Rugs for display in the museum.
- ◆ **Char & Al Meier** – Spent a total of 45 hours between the two of them building the steps to the caboose and to the original section of flume. In addition to the steps, Al restored an over 100 year old SJ&E Railroad crossing sign and donated a railroad switch for the SJ&E #50 Caboose exhibit.
- ◆ **Todd Parker** – Donated a handcrafted 4’x10’ pine table for the museum’s media room.
- ◆ **Ed & Shirley Selleck** – Donated miscellaneous tools, hardware, and supplies.
- ◆ **Southern California Edison** – Donated books, “The Story of Big Creek” to the museum for sale in the gift shop.
- ◆ **Joe Ubbink** – Spent 8 hours building a frame around the Hans Sumpf Mural and another 14 hours building a beautiful pine bench to be placed at the powerhouse building.
- ◆ **Joan & Kim Van Vleet** – Loaned 21 American Indian Baskets handed down through generations that will be displayed in the museum next summer.

In addition to these wonderful contributions, a generous cash donation to the Society came from the **Camp Edison Park Hosts**. They donated the proceeds from their annual end of summer white elephant party.

*All donations, whether it be a cash donation or an in-kind donation are extremely valuable to the Historical Society. We are a nonprofit organization, and with everybody’s support we are able to help our community fulfill their dream to keep the museum moving forward.*

*THANK YOU!*

## DOCENT PROGRAM AT THE MUSEUM

We have completed our second summer of the development of a Docent Training Program. People interested in the history of the Central Sierra and the growth of the museum have been meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday morning of the month at 9:00 to share ideas and information. Presentations at these meetings have been interesting and educational.

The season started in March, when several docents made a trek to visit the Mono Indian Museum in North Fork, the Mariposa Museum, and the Raymond Museum.

In May, long-time Historical Society member Russ Westmann gave the docents a tour of the powerhouse and the SJ&E #50 Caboose. In June we watched the first half of the DVD, *“Shaver Lake, The Early Years”*, followed by discussion. In July, Russ Westmann presented *“The Mystery and History of Carlson Resort and Mill and Camp Sierra”*.

In August, we watched the second half of the DVD, *“Shaver Lake, The Early Years”*, again followed by discussion. September’s meeting was held at the Shaver Lake Marina, where the docents learned about our boat, the *Osprey II*, and were given rides on the lake by Captain Steve Merrill.

In October, Russ Westmann and Terry Ogden provided a presentation called *“The Secrets of Stevenson Creek”*. A week later several docents toured the SJ&E Railroad Museum in Big Creek with the museum curator, Darinda Otto.

All of these presentations were fun, interesting and educational. There are many opportunities to fit your interest. Whether your interest is specific to an area like railroads, the steam donkey engine or the powerhouse, or maybe you would prefer to greet visitors inside the museum, being a docent has much to offer. We have a very comprehensive docent manual which is available at the office.



### CSHS Board of Trustees

**Chair: Honorable James L. Quaschnick**

**Augusto Altamura, Louise Yenovkian, Bill Chandler, John C. Harris,  
Honorable Debra J. Kazanjian, James M. Krueger, Steve Magarian,  
Stan Oken, Gene Rose, Peter VanVleet, Joseph Weirick, A. Emory Wishon III**

Trustees have been valuable members of CSHS. Current Trustees will be kept apprised of the board’s plans to take CSHS “to the next level”. During the coming year, board members and trustees will set goals related to long-range planning. This process may include some reorganization of the Board of Trustees

### CSHS Board of Directors

**Executive Director, President: John R. Mount, Vice-President: Linda Clague  
Secretary: Patrick Emmert Chief Financial Officer: Robert Knapp  
Curtis Blasingame, John Boogaert, Gil Davis, Dennis Driggers, Sherry Nolen,  
Janet Parr, Walt R. Reinhardt, John Sthol, Jeff Young**

**Newsletter Editor: Jean Larsen**

**Membership Renewal**       **New Member**

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of: \_\_\_\_\_

\$1000.00 - Gold Donor    \$500.00 - Silver Donor    \$ 250.00 - Bronze Donor    \$100.00 – Benefactor  
\$75.00 – Patron            \$35.00 – Family            \$ 20.00 – Individual

**IN ADDITION,**

I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Museum Building Fund.

I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

and I would like a notice of my donation be sent to: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to donate a gift membership in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 559-841-4478**

My Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment:     Visa             MasterCard             Personal Check

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CSHS**

All members will receive the CSHS newsletter.

Each paid membership constitutes one vote at the CSHS Annual Meeting.

The Central Sierra Historical Society is a California nonprofit corporation formed to preserve the history of the Central Sierra Mountain area. We operate exclusively for public benefit and educational purposes within the margins of section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.



## DON'T FORGET THE MUSEUM FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Holiday shopping is right around the corner. The museum gift shop offers a variety of books, oral histories, DVD's, note cards and postcards, unique gifts, and clothing. We also sell items made by local artists. The museum will be open Thursday-Sunday from 11:00 to 3:00 until December 16, except for Thanksgiving Day.

We are currently having a huge blow-out sale on many items! Support the museum, and while you're there make sure to check out all the new displays recently added.

Another great way to support the museum is by giving your friends and loved ones a yearly membership. It makes an excellent gift! Call the museum office at 841-4478 for details.

## FUNDRAISER AUCTION PAYS OFF FOR LUCKY BIDDERS

Dona & John Mount, Alice & Robert Knapp, Marcia & Keith Swinger, Janet & James Parr, and Linda & Brian Clague were the successful bidders of a Wine Crawl donated by several residents of the Musick Mountain subdivision. This was a live auction item at this year's Pine'n Fir Completion Fundraiser Dinner held in June, however the crawl was held in October.

Each couple was given a flashlight and began their evening with appetizers at Mary & Bud Spickler's home, more appetizers and soups were served at Theresa & Robert Beard's, dinner was served at Linda & Bob Berry's and desserts were served at Leslie & Jim Mattos' home. Four or five different wines were served at each stop. All recipients of this auction item came away from the evening feeling wine'd and dine'd and happy to have supported CSHS in such a great way.

Thank you to the homeowners who so graciously opened their homes for the event.

## OUR THANKS TO CSHS BUSINESS MEMBERS

*Thank you to the following BUSINESS MEMBERS who have renewed their membership in 2013.*

Alarmit Security Company	Boy Scouts of America
Hedrick's Chevrolet	Ponderosa Telephone
Walt R. Reinhardt Insurance Agency, Inc.	Sierra Forest Products
Sierra Marina	Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

*Each era is intertwined with what has come before,  
and in turn leaves some legacy for the future.  
Our community's future depends on businesses like yours,  
supporting the work of volunteers  
and non-profit organizations such as ours.*

## HANNON FOUNDATION AWARDS CSHS GRANT

The CSHS Board of Directors is once again very pleased to announce the award of a grant from THE WILLIAM H HANNON FOUNDATION of Santa Monica, California.

David W. Burcham, who is a member of the Foundation's board, chose CSHS to be the beneficiary of a grant in the amount of \$5,000 for the Director's Fund.

We are very grateful for the generosity of the William H Hannon Foundation.

## CSHS TRUSTEE PETER G. MEHAS PASSES AWAY

Pete Mehas, a Central Sierra Historical Society Trustee and former Fresno County Office of Education Superintendent has passed away in Fresno. He is remembered as a man who dedicated his life to education. Mr. Mehas was a long standing member of our Board of Trustees. His work and efforts on behalf of education will be missed by the entire Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum family.



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Non-profit Org.  
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Shaver Lake  
Permit No. 35

## Newsletter Fall, 2013

### 2013 MUSEUM HOURS - Seasonal Schedule

Thursdays - Sundays 11:00-3:00, until December 16, *except Thanksgiving Day*. (Weather permitting)

December 17 - closed for the winter (depending on weather)

*We are able to open the museum for special occasions, tour requests, etc.  
Please call the museum at (559) 841-4478 for more information.*

#### How to Reach Us

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559/841-4478, fax 841-4479    E-mail - [cshs@netptc.net](mailto:cshs@netptc.net)    [www.sierrahistorical.org](http://www.sierrahistorical.org)

*For rapid response to your questions and to receive information via E-mail,  
send your electronic address to [cshs@netptc.net](mailto:cshs@netptc.net).*

#### *Mission Statement of the Central Sierra Historical Society*

*The mission of CSHS is to enrich the cultural and educational experiences of visitors to the Sierra Nevada Mountains, by deepening their understanding of the human and natural history of this area. CSHS hopes to inspire future generations by bringing to life the challenges and achievements of the people who lived here.*

*It is the goal of CSHS to construct and operate a first-class museum and learning center near Shaver Lake that will preserve the heritage of the Central Sierra. CSHS will provide educational programs and activities to the public, it will preserve and protect historical artifacts, and it will work in partnership with other organizations to further the study of the history of this area.*