



Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum

MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022



**MUSEUM
OF THE SIERRA**
AND EDUCATION CENTER

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WEBSITE: www.museumofthesierra.org

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MUSEUM HOURS

THE MUSEUM IS CLOSED FOR THE WINTER.
WE WILL REOPEN IN SPRING 2023



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• STORYTELLERS •



The Central Sierra Historical Society (CSHS) is excited to announce that Bobbie Fleming has been selected for the role of Director, effective December 1, 2022. Ms. Fleming will oversee both the Museum of the Sierra and the Central Sierra Resiliency Fund (CSRF) and manage all day-to-day operations, coordinate community workdays and events, oversee organizational projects, collaborate with local organizations, lead marketing and community engagement efforts, provide fundraising assistance and lead the CSHS' long-term strategic planning.

Ms. Fleming has been with the CSHS for one year, serving as the Museum's Business Manager and Director of the CSRF. During her time at CSHS, Bobbie has further unified the Museum and CSRF, collaborated with local and valley organizations, implemented systems and processes to improve day-to-day operations, and more. She brings a wealth of knowledge, having served in the nonprofit industry in various leadership roles, including associate executive director of the Clinical TMS Society, California Association of Business Brokers, Certified Access Specialist Institute, and Association of Medicine and Psychiatry.

Ms. Fleming is a mountain resident and Sierra High School and Fresno State Craig School of Business alumni. Her deep passion for the Central Sierra community, combined with her expertise, will help further to advance the mission of the Central Sierra Historical Society.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

Since its founding in 1991, the Central Sierra Historical Society and Museum has grown steadily through the community's financial support and the tireless efforts of volunteers. Over the years, we have earned the trust and respect of our supporters by having committed, responsible and capable leadership.

Some of our significant exhibits lend themselves naturally to lessons demonstrating STEM principles, including; magnetism in hydroelectric power generation, the physics of steam generation, and the volume of flowing water in the lumber flume.

In addition to our STEM-focused education program, the Museum has revised our mission to preserve the history of the entire Sierra. In doing so, our focus is to create more diversity by sharing accounts of underserved groups of the Sierra, such as the Buffalo Soldiers, Vaqueros, Women of the Sierra, and more. In the Spring of 2023, we will be opening our Buffalo Soldiers digital exhibit, the first display of this underserved series.

In the wake of the Creek Fire and over the past three years, the Central Sierra Historical Society helped found and support the Central Sierra Resiliency Fund, a community effort legally bound within the Central Sierra Historical Society, to provide soil stabilization community clinics, property clean-ups, fuels reduction workdays and Seedlings of Hope tree plantings. Thank you for supporting these efforts.

Since the start of 2020, the Resiliency Fund has been actively planning, engaging, and working in the community on projects for the long-term response to the Creek Fire. Through contributions from supporters like you, CSRF has worked to clear fire debris for plantings, planted over 46,000 seedlings, and collected seeds for new seedlings. CSRF and the community will continue planting seedlings this fall and spring to restore forests for future generations.

Please take a moment to consider making a tax-deductible financial gift. Donating to the Historical Society will reduce your taxes to the IRS if you are eligible for a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). Check the tax laws in your state and consult with a licensed professional.

Your support is needed and greatly appreciated. You can make a secure online donation at www.museumofthesierra.org by clicking the Join+Give button and Donate Now on the dropdown. Either way, your gift is tax-deductible.

RECENT CSHS PROJECTS

Partnership in Education Program (PEP):

The Central Sierra Resiliency Fund and the Central Sierra Historical Society are committed to educating our community and youth, restoring and maintaining our natural resources through the shared education task force in its beginning stages. This will include education programs for mountain and valley youth, a California wildfire exhibit at the Museum, and more.

Museum Endowment Fund:

Through the generosity of an anonymous donor, our fund has been seeded with \$1 million, and your contribution to our endowment will be matched – up to \$1 million. As the fund grows, the future of the museum transitions from a year-to-year challenge to a self-sustaining model.

The Russ & Sally Westmann Gravity Fund:

The Russ & Sally Westmann Gravity Fund honors the generosity of Russ and Sally Westmann and the life work of Russ Westmann in educating youth in structural and mechanical engineering. The fund is intended to assist the Central Sierra Historical Society (CSHS) with the retention or "gravity" of exceptional individuals working in a region that they might otherwise leave without competitive salary options.

The Gravity Fund will support the focus on maintaining quality staff and attracting critical talent to further the fundraising and the mission of the Central Sierra Historical Society, Museum of the Sierra, and the Central Sierra Resiliency Fund.



Education Center Building Expansion:

With over 19 acres in the beautiful Sierra Nevada, there is so much history and science to explore at the Museum of the Sierra. Some of our major exhibits lend themselves naturally to lessons demonstrating STEM principles – magnetism in hydroelectric power generation, the physics of steam generation, and the volume of flowing water in the lumber flume, to name just a few.



STEM exhibits include:

- Functioning, early 20th Century Steam Donkey
- Replica Log Flume & Tenders Cabin
- Functioning, Early 20th Century Hydroelectric Generator

More than 1,000 students have experienced our hands-on STEM education program! We are also developing dedicated programs featuring Native American history and wildfire education. Finally, with a nature trail on our property, students may take a docent-led walk to introduce the Sierra forest ecosystem at a mile-high elevation.

Our education program aligns with state standards, providing learners with a connection to the content. CA NGSS Science concepts:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newton's Law • Force & Motion • Energy Transfer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action & Reaction • Matter Properties & Change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friction & Lubrication • Viscosity • Gravity
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RECENT CSRF PROJECTS

Fuels Reduction Projects in Collaboration with Sierra RCD & Local Partners

The Central Sierra Resiliency Fund continues to support the Sierra RCD and partners working on local property post-fire fuels reduction clean-up projects.

The latest community workdays included clearing the Pine Ridge School surrounding area of low debris and ready for seedling planting in the spring. We had a successful fuel reduction/clean-up day in Shaver Springs on January 22 with nearly 60 volunteers.





Partnership with Blue Forest:

We are proud to announce our partnership with Blue Forest Conservation (Blue Forest) to develop financial solutions addressing the long-term environmental impacts of the 2020 Creek Fire, including the financing of hazard tree removal, ecological thinning, site prep, and tree planting on public and private lands. Together with the Sierra National Forest, CSRF and Blue Forest are seeking to support the implementation of reforestation projects in areas impacted by the Creek Fire

Relief through ReLeaf California Grant with Tree Fresno:

CSRF and Tree Fresno were recently notified that our joint grant was approved through ReLeaf California (funding from the USDA Forest Service). The Relief Through ReLeaf program supports critical urban and rural reforestation efforts in multiple underserved California communities adversely impacted by extreme weather events like wildfire. This grant supports planting seedlings at Pine Ridge School and helps fund the professional foresters' work on the Seedlings of Hope program. The Pine Ridge School planting day involved local families and youth service groups from the mountains and the Valley.

Spring Seedlings of Hope Planting:

In late February, volunteers helped ready the seedlings and move them from Mulholland Citrus, who generously grow many of our Seedling of Hope seedlings, free of charge, to cold storage in Big Creek in preparation for plantings. In early March, we worked with local property owners in the Creek Fire footprint to plant seedlings as a community effort. There was a diverse participant engagement working with Pine Ridge Elementary School, Tree Fresno, and the Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce Youth Ambassador's Green Team.



Spring Seedlings of Hope Cone Collection:

To Date, CSRF has planted over 46,000 seedlings in the Creek Fire scar with help from Registered Foresters, the community, and our remarkable supporters.

The Central Sierra Resiliency Fund's work in our community would not be possible without the generous support of individuals, families, foundations, and sponsors. We are deeply grateful for the continued gifts of time and finances.

There is no magic bullet to fix complex system problems in the face of post-fire recovery and ongoing climate change.

CSRF believes that collective impact requires collaboration – bringing together organizations, donors, government representatives, and, most importantly, communities to work towards common goals.

In May of this year, CSRF was awarded grant funding through Edison International to expand our Seedlings of Hope Program to include Cone Collection.

In recent years, widespread wildfires and bark-beetle devastation have led to a severe seed and seedling supply shortage across California. In response, we are taking action to stock our very own seed bank to continue our reforestation efforts in the Fresno County Creek Fire footprint!

In early August, CSRF council member Gus Wicks (from Edison Forestry), and certified climber, Nick Smith (from The Woods) collected cone samples from Jeffrey, Ponderosa, and Sugar pinecones. Most of the samples pulled contained large quantities of seed with either limited or nonexistent bug damage.

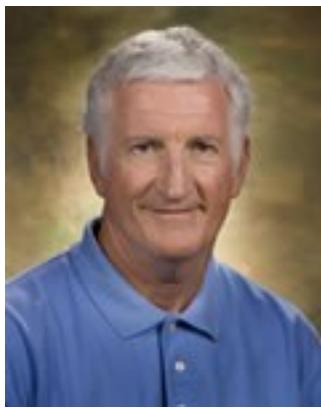
In collaboration with the Creek Fire Recovery Collaborative (CFRC), Sierra RCD, Provost and Pritchard, and our dedicated volunteers, all seed was harvested from the cones in September and will be stored at the Edison Nursery. In Spring 2023, we will begin sowing seeds from our Mulholland Citrus and Intermountain Nursery seed bank. This effort will allow us to continue replanting within the Fresno County Creek Fire footprint for several years!

Storytellers Project:

The Resiliency Fund is committed to honoring the historical legacy of the Central Sierra region by collecting community stories of the Creek Fire—and the unique histories that precede it—and preserving those stories through the Central Sierra Historical Society.

For a year and a half now, the Creek Fire Storytelling Project Team has been hard at work collecting community stories of the Creek Fire. We've gathered stories from foresters, firefighters, cabin owners, campers, and full-time residents. We have poems, oral interviews, and even game-camera images. We are preserving these eyewitness accounts so that down the road, as memories fade, future generations will be able to fill in the gaps of those parts of history that are more closely documented—the statistics, the maps—with the words of the people who experienced the Creek Fire themselves. CSRF plans to publish the book in May of 2023, and it will be available for purchase at the Museum of the Sierra.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS



DANIEL J. GRIFFIN, ED.D.

Dr. Griffin has a doctorate in Educational Psychology with an emphasis on survey methodology and statistical analysis. He also has a Master's Degree in Public Administration, a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning, and a 6-12 teaching credential.

Dr. Griffin has been on the board of directors since 1996 for Stone Soup Fresno, a nonprofit helping bridge cultures through education. He is also on the board of directors for the Fresno Metro Ministry and the Fresno and Madera Counties Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). He has also volunteered with many nonprofits, including University HOPE and Habitat for Humanity, participating in numerous building projects plus a weekly meal program for 40-50 needy individuals hosted by the St. Paul Newman Church in Fresno.

Dr. Griffin retired from California State University, Fresno (Fresno State), in 2015 after 26 years as the Associate Director of the University Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. He has also taught various courses at Fresno State, including statistics, program evaluation, urban planning, and grant writing.

Dr. Griffin has received the following awards:

- Fresno State's American Humanics Program founding advisor award for ten years of service in 2020
- Fresno State's U. S. Army Bulldog Battalion ROTC Program's Gold Medal Athlete Award in 2018
- Fresno and Madera Counties CASA outstanding board member award in 2017
- Clovis Rotary Community Service Volunteer Award in 2011
- Fresno County AmeriCorps' VISTA Outstanding Volunteer Award in 2011
- Hands-On Central California - Humanitarian of the Year - outstanding volunteer in 2009
- Fresno State's Spirit of Service Volunteer Award in 2007.

Dr. Griffin stays active through his morning runs through the agricultural farmland at Fresno State.



DEBBIE JACOBSEN

Third-generation farmer, Debbie Jacobsen, is a lifelong Fresno area resident. Before their retirement a few years ago, she and her family owned J&L Vineyards, a raisin and wine grape farm in the Easton area. J&L Vineyards was recognized as the Fresno County Ag Business of the Year in 2001.

Jacobsen spent almost 50 years as a resident of the Easton area before relocating to Clovis nearly six years ago and is known for her strong commitment and passion for Valley agriculture and education. For over 30 years, she has shared that passion with the Fresno County Farm Bureau (FCFB). From 2002-04, she served as the first woman President of the organization, where she focused on increasing the organization's advocacy efforts on critical such as air quality and economic viability. From 2005-2011 she served on the California Farm Bureau Board of Directors representing District 7, Fresno County. During that time, she served as Chairman of the Finance Committee and sat on the Executive Committee.

Jacobsen serves on the Friends of the (Big Fresno) Fair Foundation, where she has served since 2020 after her service on the Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors from 2005-2020. She also serves on the Board of Directors of The Foundation @ FCOE (Fresno County Office of Education).

Past leadership roles included PTA president, coaching, and fundraising in the Washington Unified School District. In the community, she served as a local 4-H Club community project leader, volunteered with Terry's House in downtown Fresno and served on the Board of Directors of the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom for over 22 years.

Jacobsen has received several prestigious awards, including the FCFB Distinguished Service Award in 1994, the 2012 Fresno County Agriculturist of the Year, the 2015 Fresno County Office of Education Honors Honoree for Agriculture, and in 2017 she was a Marjorie Mason Center Top Ten Professional Women Awardee. In 2021 she was inducted into The Big Fresno Fair Hall of Fame and awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the California Farm Bureau.

Jacobsen has spent countless volunteer hours at agricultural-related meetings on diverse topics about production agriculture. She has dedicated her life to creating a community that sustains agriculture and offers quality education. As part of that commitment, she was actively involved in running the San Joaquin Political Academy, whose mission was to assist in the development of visionary political leaders who believe a healthy business climate is fundamental to a strong economy and a strong economy is necessary for a vibrant community.

GEORGE "VAN" VAN VLEET IV (Photo to follow)

I was born in Fresno in 1965, have worked for the University of California, Merced, for over 20 years, and have a professional background in facilities management, project management, construction, and development.

My family arrived in the Fresno area in the late 1880s and, soon after, purchased a property in the Shaver Lake area (then called Pine Ridge) per a California state land grant. For several decades, the Van Vleet family ran cattle on that property and surrounding national forest lands. We have constantly maintained vacation cabins & full-time residences in the Shaver community ever since. In recent decades, my father & uncle developed several subdivisions around the community of Shaver Lake and other local business interests.

This long-term, active involvement and property ownership in Shaver has been embedded in me for as long as I can remember. I grew up spending my summers at the old cattle camp cabins...swimming, boating, fishing at the lake, exploring the woods, hunting the area in the fall, and hiking to all points. I'm always aware that when in the Shaver area, I walk in the footsteps of multiple generations of Van Vleets.

My father, mother, uncle, aunt, and many other extended family members have been actively involved in the Shaver community for as long as I can remember. That sense of civic duty, shared community responsibility, and desire to give back has also been passed on to me.

I have tremendous pride and a great fondness for the community of Shaver Lake, which holds a special place in my heart and soul.

JAMES WEIRICK (Photo to follow)**Current**

Leslie Ltd.

Managing partner of farming and commercial real estate company with holdings in the Central Valley and other investments.

The Honorable Walter B. Jones, Jr. (R-NC)

Special Military Advisor to Representative Jones for military and legislative issues.

Digital Audio Partnership

Partnership with Long Arc Digital Media, responsible for production, social media marketing, and advertising for a digital-audio company.

Previous

United States Marine Corps, Retired Lieutenant Colonel

Served as Judge Advocate (lawyer) at trial and appellate levels. In-house counsel for a three-star general, advising on ethics, employment law, environmental law, criminal law, and various other matters. Member of The Joint Staff, evaluating and auditing all major commands responsible for worldwide military operations.

Education

Seton Hall School of Law – Newark, NJ – Juris Doctorate 2000

University of Southern California – L.A., CA - B.S., Business Administration 1996

CSHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson: Keith Swinger
 Vice-Chair: Janet Parr
 Secretary: John R. Mount
 Chief Finance Officer: Robert Knapp
 Recording Secretary: Rebecca Davis

Members:
 Dan Griffin, Ed.D. Norm Saude
 Debbie Jacobsen John Sthol
 Doug Koerper George "Van" Van Vleet IV
 Rick Reinhardt James Weirick
 Walt Reinhardt Vince Wiggins

CSHS ADVOCATE COUNCIL

Chair: John R. Mount

Augusto Altamura	Steve McDonald
Robert Berry, Jr.	Steve Magarian
Dr John Boogaert	James Palmer
William Chandler	Peter Van Vleet
Hon. Debra Kazanjian	A. Emory Wishon III
James M. Krueger	O. James Woodward III

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

If you feel that you can contribute to the good works of the historical society as a Board Member or as an Advocate Council Member, please get in touch with John Mount at (559) 841-4478

2023 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – VIA ZOOM OR IN-PERSON PLEASE CALL BECKY DAVIS FOR ZOOM INFORMATION

January 23, 2023	Monday	Museum Media Room or Zoom	5:00 PM
March 27, 2023	Monday	Museum Media Room or Zoom	5:00 PM
May 6, 2023 (Annual Membership Meeting)	Saturday	Museum Media Room or Zoom	2:00 PM
May 22, 2023	Monday	Museum Media Room or Zoom	5:00 PM
July 24, 2023	Monday	Museum Media Room or Zoom	5:00 PM
September 25, 2023	Monday	Museum Media Room or Zoom	5:00 PM
November 27, 2023	Monday	Museum Media Room or Zoom	5:00 PM

CSHS MUSEUM STAFF

Bobbie Fleming – CSHS & CSRF Director
 Kerri Elizondo - Office Manager, Bookkeeper
 Rebecca Davis – Member Services, Newsletter, Recording Secretary
 Deb Bell - Museum Assistant
 Joy West – Museum Assistant

**CENTRAL SIERRA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES
THE RUSS & SALLY WESTMANN GRAVITY FUND**

SHAVER LAKE, CA – December 2022 - On December 16, 2022, The Russ & Sally Westmann Gravity Fund was established through the Central Sierra Historical Society in Shaver Lake, California. The Gravity Fund honors the generosity of Russ and Sally Westmann and the life work of Russ Westmann in educating youth in structural and mechanical engineering. The fund will assist the Central Sierra Historical Society (CSHS) with the retention or "gravity" of exceptional individuals working in a region that they might otherwise leave without competitive salary options.

Russ and Sally Westmann gave generously to CSHS during their lives. During that time, they influenced major decisions and participated in the vision and execution of many projects. The Board of Directors is incredibly grateful for Russ' support of time in his later years and the intellectual heft that was a hallmark of his character.

The Gravity Fund will support the focus on maintaining quality staff and attracting critical talent to further the fundraising and the mission of the Central Sierra Historical Society, Museum of the Sierra, and the Central Sierra Resiliency Fund.

The Board of Directors is honored to receive this gift to kickstart a fund to support one of the most challenging areas of an organization - to raise funds to support incredible staff. During this holiday season, we give extra thanks to the Westmann family for their gift of trust in the critical work that the Central Sierra Historical Society is doing in the central Sierra.

**BUSINESS CIRCLE MEMBERS WILL NOW
BE CALLED PARTNER MEMBERS**

THANK YOU to the following partners who have joined the Historical Society's Partner Member Program. Your membership helps preserve the museum collection, maintain and improve the Museum and its exhibits, and provide our community with educational programs, exhibitions, and engaging social activities. An updated portable banner listing all partner memberships is displayed at the museum and other outreach events. Please consider supporting us by joining the Historical Society as a Partner Member with a tax-deductible \$250/year membership donation.

Auberry Feed Station, Patty Jones	Auberry
Augusto Altamura & Co, Augusto Altamura	Riverdale
Boy Scouts of America, Sequoia Chapter #027, John Richers	Fresno
Cal West Rain, Larry Isheim	Kerman
Coleman, Tom & Lisa	Fresno
Dick's Mountain Tackle, Dick & Diane Nichols	Shaver Lake
Doug Koerper Construction, Doug Koerper	Shaver Lake
Emerson Church Law, Rayma Church	Fresno
F&F West, Ferguson Farming, Ryan Ferguson	Lemoore
FACSCO, Steve McBride	Fresno
Fleming & Sons, LLC, Grant & Jennifer Fleming	Auberry
Foothill Physical Therapy, Caroline Thomson	Auberry
Gold Arrow Camp, Steven & Audrey Monke	Huntington Lake

DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

Golden Empire Electric, Doug & Sharon Tudor	Bakersfield
Intermountain Nursery, Chris & Bev Schubert	Prather
J Noble Binns Plumbing Co, Don & Carolyn Schimnowski	Bakersfield
J&J Custom Picking, Jim & Judy Errecart	Shaver Lake
Jack Benigno Tree Service, Jack Benigno	Visalia
James G. Palmer Appraisals, Josh Palmer	Fresno
Jeff Covey, CPA, Jeff Covey	Auberry
Keith Gibson, Realtor	Fresno
Lite-On-The Land, Steve & Starla Lawshe and Ryan & Kristen Day	Auberry
Little-Worley's Auto, Brian & Denise Little	Hanford
McPheeters & Associates, Land Surveying, Katrina Olsen	Clovis
Melko Notary Services, Philip Melkonian	Sanger
Mid-Term, Inc, Craig & Ellen Middleton	Fresno
Muir Trail Ranch, Karla Hurley	Ahwahnee
OHM-Mega Electric, Mark & Kerri Elizondo	Auberry
O'Neill Agri-Management, Inc., Tim & Anna O'Neill	Madera
Outback Materials, Curtis Lovett	Fresno
Peter Van Vleet, Realtor	Shaver Lake
Pinnacle Real Estate of Shaver Lake, Beth Brown	Shaver Lake
Pius Construction, Diana Pius	Shaver Lake
Ponderosa Solid Waste, Fred Dow	Friant
Ponderosa Telephone, Dusty Gauthier	O'Neals
Quaking Aspen, Inc., Lindsey Chargin	Shaver Lake
Reinhardt Insurance Agency, Inc., Walt Reinhardt	Fresno
Roger E Petersen Investments, Roger E Petersen	Clovis
Sass Public Relations, Carrie Sass	Stockton
Shaver Lake Fishing Club, The McDonald Family	Shaver Lake
Shaver Lake Marina, Tyler Powell	Shaver Lake
Shaver Lake Pizza, Rehg & Darla Ronemus	Shaver Lake
Shaver Lake Sports, Dave Powell	Shaver Lake
Shaver Lake Trophy Trout Project, Bob Bernier, Treasurer	Shaver Lake
Sierra Forest Products, Kent Duyse	Terra Bella
Sierra Marina Inc., Sheldon Sandstrom	Shaver Lake
T.B. Pump Systems, Thom Boganwright	Madera
Tim Messer Construction, Inc., Tim Messer	Auberry
Two Brothers Landscaping, Mario Contreras	Sanger
Waters Properties, Danny & Joan Waters	Fresno
Wer-Stan Associates, John Stanfield, Bob Stanfield	Shaver Lake

Heartfelt THANKS

TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

It was a stellar year of activities, some old and some new. And we could not have done it without you!

Being a seasonal museum, we cram 12 months of fundraising into about five months (April-September). This year we were business as usual, plus we added several new events to the calendar. We called on you, our loyal volunteers, and you eagerly met the challenges. You are extremely important to us, and we hope you will return with the same vigor next year. Bring a friend! Bring a relative! Shout it from the rooftops – we need volunteers! There are many opportunities, and there is always a place for a particular talent. In the meantime, when we meet again in Spring 2023, please know we are thinking of you and sending you good wishes for your health and safety.



In the meantime, the Central Sierra Historical Society and Museum has joined forces with the Central Sierra Resiliency Fund. The Resiliency Fund will support Creek Fire recovery efforts in our affected communities. This effort is especially dear to our hearts because all of you know somebody affected by this devastation.

Your volunteer skills are still needed. Won't you consider volunteering for the Resiliency Fund?

For more information, please go to the fund page on our website:

<https://sierrahistorical.org/resiliency-fund-volunteers>

If you have any questions about volunteering, please get in touch with Alyson Brooks by email at rffvolunteers@sierrahistorical.org

DOING GOOD IS GOOD FOR YOU...CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING!

2022 SPECIAL THANK YOU'S

- **AlphaGraphics** in Clovis supported CSHS by providing excellent service for all our printing needs throughout the year.
- **Apex Window Cleaning Service, Mike Gaynor** of Oakhurst, discounted costs for cleaning the museum windows.
- **Belong Wine Co** of Napa donated wine for the 2022 Wine In The Woods Event.
- **Jane Cavanagh** of Shaver Lake donated her time to maintain the museum grounds.
- **Cohen Communications** of Fresno donated their time and talents for the joint CSRF Lagers With Loggers event.
- **Mark Isaac** of Dinuba donated his time and talent to assist in the restoration of the Hayden Sawmill.
- **Tom Janz** of Shaver Lake donated his time and effort to maintain the museum grounds over the summer.
- **Bill Johnston** of Flagstaff, Arizona, donated his supply of books *Shortline To Paradise* and *Pioneers in Petticoats* to be sold in the museum's gift shop.
- **Justin Vineyards & Winery** of Paso Robles donated wine for the 2022 Wine In The Woods Event.
- **Doug Koerper** of Shaver Lake donated his wood craftsmanship to build a shelter for the bear presented by **Mark Reynolds** of Shaver Lake. He also donated his time and talent to demonstrate the Powerhouse throughout the season and installed the solar light on the flagpole in front of the museum.
- **Doug & Debbie Koerper** work hard to bring top-notch speakers to our Sierra Voices presentations throughout the season and lead hikes on our Hikes for History program.
- **Lava Cap Winery** of Placerville donated wine for the 2022 Wine in The Woods Event.
- **Patrick Leeper** of Prescott Valley, Arizona, donated a guitar created from sinker wood for our 2023 summer raffle.
- **Doug Lencioni** of Shaver Lake donated his time and talent to 1) paint the museum's well-house and the Steam Donkey kiosk, 2) assist Doug Koerper with the Powerhouse demonstrations, and 3) fix the museum's golf cart!
- **Doug & Cathy Lencioni** of Shaver Lake donated their time and talent to assess the Model-T truck. Cathy spent a day cleaning it.
- **The Steve McDonald Family** of Sanger, especially Heather McDonald Sullivan, for their commitment and hard work to bring back the Black Pot Cookoff event this year.
- **Peter McKinley** of Auberry donated his time & effort to help us with minor maintenance jobs at the museum.
- **Mad Duck Craft Restaurant & Brewery** of Clovis discounted their meal and travel costs for the Lagers with Loggers event.
- **Steve Merrill** of Clovis for donating his time and talents in presenting our folklore webinars.

- **Barry & Suzanne Motte** donated wine for our 2022 Taste of Shaver Lake event.
- **Tina Quillen** of Clovis donated her photographs of the drained Shaver Lake to be sold in the museum's gift shop.
- **Norm Saude** of Tollhouse has been donating many hours to restore the Hayden Sawmill, so it will be available to exhibit next season. Additionally, Norm leads the **Sierra Steamers** group to demonstrate the Dolbeer Steam Donkey 5-6 times a year.
- **John Sthol** of Shaver Lake donated the goods for the 2022 Annual Pancake Breakfast.
- **Eric Tallberg** of Shaver Lake donated his time to install all the solar lights around the museum grounds and amphitheater trail.
- **Tioga-Sequoia Brewing Company** of Fresno donated beverages for the Lagers with Loggers event.
- **Mike Yelinek** of Shaver Lake donated his time and effort to repair door locks at the museum.
- **Shaver Lake Trophy Trout** organization of Shaver Lake donated their time and talent to maintain the fish tank they contributed in 2021, including the cabinet, equipment, and supplies.
- **Two Brothers Landscaping** of Sanger discounted costs for landscaping services around the museum.

*We apologize if we overlooked anybody who selfishly donated throughout the year. All contributions are precious to the Historical Society, whether a cash donation, an acquisition, or an in-kind donation. We are a nonprofit organization, and with everybody's support, we can help our community fulfill the dream of keeping the museum moving forward. **THANK YOU VERY MUCH!***

CREATE A LONG-LASTING LEGACY

Help the **CENTRAL SIERRA HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM, INC** when considering your planned giving.

- ✓ **Gifting Stocks & Bonds (In Many Cases, Avoid Capital Gains!)**
- ✓ **A Tax Deduction Option When Withdrawing a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).**
- ✓ **Estate Planning and Wills (You Live On Forever Through Your Gift).**

Check the tax laws in your state and consult with a licensed professional.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

We hope you will remember the Society when you are planning your estate, or as a suitable means of honoring a departed friend or loved one.

Donations have recently been received in memory of:

-Keith Darling-	-Helmi Preheim-
-Joan Van Vleet-	-Vincent Verrastro-
-Joseph West-	

Help Bring Joy This Holiday Season

Shop for Holiday gifts using AmazonSmile
to support us, at no cost



SUPPORT US WHEN SHOPPING ON AMAZON SMILE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

BUY YOUR GIFTS AND HOLIDAY ESSENTIALS AT SMILE.AMAZON.COM

YOU SHOP... AMAZON DONATES...EVERY LITTLE BIT COUNTS

GREAT NEWS! AS OF NOVEMBER 2022, CSHS HAS RECEIVED \$1,161. THANKS TO YOU!

What is AmazonSmile? It is a simple and automatic way for you to support CSHS every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you will find the same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com; Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to us with a bonus.

How do you shop at AmazonSmile? To shop at AmazonSmile, go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start shopping at AmazonSmile.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations? Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile Donation" on their product detail pages.

Can you use your existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile? Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are the same.

How do you select CSHS to support when shopping on AmazonSmile? On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to choose the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

How much of your purchase does Amazon donate? The AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to CSHS. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates, excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges.

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Submitted By Bobbie Fleming

TEN HIGHLIGHTS FROM CSRF IN 2022

1. Gus Wick of Southern California Edison's nurseries joined our council.



2. CSRF distributed 33,895 Seedlings of Hope in 2022 alone. Since April 2021, CSRF and its volunteers have planted **39,900** seedlings! An additional **11,930** seedlings were grown and sold to local landowners with reforestation needs beyond the scope of the Seedlings of Hope Program. As a result, CSRF has provided **51,830** seedlings to facilitate reforestation in our community to date!
3. In early 2022, we received a \$40,000 joint grant with Tree Fresno from Relief through ReLeaf California and the USDA Forest Service to further Seedlings of Hope and restoration work at Pine Ridge School.



4. We purchased a Seedlings of Hope trailer so our seedling planting and grubbing tools can move quickly to our workdays and organize our gear for landowners to check out tools as needed.



5. In May, we received a \$5,000 grant from Edison International to kick start our Cone Collection efforts to establish a local seed supply to continue providing seedlings to the community for free despite the statewide seed bank shortages.



6. In September 2022, we hired a tree climber to harvest cones and utilized volunteers at the Museum of the Sierra to separate the seed from the cones. These efforts yielded **4,414** Ponderosa Pine cones (equivalent to approximately 300,000 seeds), **1,328** Sugar Pine cones (equivalent to about 100,000 seeds), and **256** Jeffery Pine cones (equivalent to about 20,000 seeds). In Spring 2023, we will begin sowing seeds from our seed bank at Mulholland Citrus and Intermountain Nursery to provide Seedlings of Hope for the Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 seasons!

7. In September, our Storytelling project wrapped up its collection of stories for a printed book. (We are still accepting stories for our website collection.) Over 65 stories came in over the last year (25 of which came in during the previous month!). The committee is now working on putting together a printed book of the stories we intend to have available for sale in 2023.

8. On October 1st, we held our first annual Lagers with Loggers event at the Museum. A panel of loggers and foresters entertained and engaged with over 100 attendees with their insights into and experiences within the world of Forestry.



9. Over the year, CSRF volunteers worked hand-in-hand with Tree Fresno and its Green Team on four workdays at Pine Ridge School. Three of those days were spent planting seedlings around the school's perimeter.



10. We collaborated with the Sierra RCD, Tree Fresno, and its Green Team on a fuels-reduction workday at Pine Ridge School to prepare the area for planting. Introducing grubbing techniques and tools is essential in furthering the health of the new seedling forests in the future.

**THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS, SPONSORS, AND PARTNERS
THAT HAVE HELPED US MAKE ALL THIS HAPPEN!**





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ATTENTION SCE CURRENT AND RETIRED EMPLOYEES

As the end of the year approaches, current and past Southern California Edison Company employees 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 of up to \$600 per year, representing your hours of volunteer service. These hours do not need to be performed 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. If you need help, don't hesitate to contact Becky Davis at the museum (559-841-4478).

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



Save the Date!

2023 ANNUAL FUNDRAISER DINNER

Saturday, June 24, 2023

PRESERVE CENTRAL SIERRA HISTORY – BECOME A MEMBER!

If you are among the generous friends who renewed their 2022 membership or became a new member this year, you have our most heartfelt thanks. If you have not yet renewed your membership – or if you have and can possibly consider adding to it – please do so today. Your contributions enable us to accomplish so much; we need your help now more than ever.

We held our Annual Pancake Breakfast, Ice Cream Social, and Annual Fundraiser Dinner. We continued with our Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Ups and Powerhouse Demonstrations and our popular Hikes for History program. This year, the Sierra Voices presentations were a smashing success, as was our ever-popular Friday in The Pines Concert Series. During our short summer, these and many more functions covered the yearly cost of maintaining the museum and its grounds. Your annual membership dues cover only a tiny portion of the cost. We look to the generosity of like-minded people like yourself, who share in our belief that the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum is, and must continue to be, an essential part of our community and surrounding forest into the future.

Please help us keep the Museum moving forward. Every amount helps. We offer free entry to the exhibits, and most of our programs are free of charge, thanks to your membership. We could not do that without your support.

There Are Several Ways You Can Contribute:

- (1) Complete the form on the next page and return it with your check.
- (2) Visit our website (www.sierrahistorical.org) and click on membership to pay with a credit card.
- (3) Call the office (559-841-4478) to use a credit card over the phone.

Your membership helps preserve the museum collection, maintain & improve the museum and its exhibits, and provide our community with educational programs, exhibitions, and engaging social activities.

On behalf of all of us at the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum, you are a vital part of our CSHS family, and our caring thoughts are extended for your continued health and safety.

We hope you will continue supporting us with your tax-deductible contribution.

GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

You can support the Historical Society by giving your friends and loved ones a one-year membership to the Museum. At only \$30, it makes an excellent gift. Please call the museum for more information.

The mission of the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum, Inc. (CSHS) is to provide cultural and educational experiences to deepen the understanding of the human and natural history of the central Sierra region. The CSHS is a museum without walls inspiring future generations to nurture a healthy, resilient forest and community.

Membership Renewal New Member
 Check here if you have a change of address

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of:

- \$1000.00 - Gold Member
- \$500.00 - Silver Member
- \$250.00 - Bronze Member
- \$250.00 - Partner Member (See Page 10)
- \$150.00 - Donor Member
- \$50.00 - Family Member
- \$30.00 - Individual Member

**WE ARE SUPPORTED SOLELY BY THE
GENEROSITY OF OUR DONORS**

OTHER LEVELS

- Benefactor Circle (Museum of the Sierra Endowment Fund – Matched \$1 for each \$1 Donated)
- Friends Circle – Monthly Giving Program – starting at \$5/month and up. Please call the museum to enroll.
- Patrons Circle (\$2000/5-Yr Commitment)

IN ADDITION:

- I want to donate \$ _____ to the Museum's General Operating Fund.
- I want to donate \$ _____ in memory of: _____

And I would like a notice of my donation 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

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
PO BOX 617, SHAVER LAKE CA 93664-0617**

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 Central Sierra Mountain area's history. We operate exclusively for the public benefit and educational purposes within the margins of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. **Tax ID # 77-0280796**



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www.sierrahistorical.org/resiliencyfund

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Beginning in 2023 we will be publishing two newsletters per year, Spring and Fall. You will periodically receive email messages to alert you of upcoming activities. If you have not provided us with your email address please do so and you will receive notifications of our fantastic activities!

MUSEUM WISH LIST

***Have you wished you could have a lasting impact on the Museum of The Sierra?
Here is your chance...Donations are appreciated to fund the following projects:***

- Daytime Projector (\$1000)
- Water Bottle Hydration Station (\$2000)
- Photocopy Paper (\$50/case)

Please call CSHS at 841-4478 for more information on how you can assist with one or more of these projects. We are happy to provide you with an in-kind donation letter for your taxes.

******ANY DONATIONS LESS THAN THE FULL AMOUNT WILL BE PLACED IN THE GENERAL OPERATING FUND IN THE EVENT NOT ENOUGH FUNDS ARE RAISED******