

HISTORIAN

Tuolumne County Historical Society Newsletter

Sonora, California

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Museum Day Open House

Come join us at the Tuolumne County Museum on Saturday, September 25th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and help us celebrate National Museum Day.

This year volunteers from the Tuolumne County Historical Society and the Tuolumne County Museum have put together



Jim Sneddon, SER worker

an agenda for guests and the membership. Since remodeling and upgrading the History Center, we have not had an opportunity to open our area to the public. Although the facility is not fully completed, National Museum Day, which is sponsored by the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D. C. and hundreds of other museums across the nation, is the perfect venue to demonstrate the theme, "Preservation of History Using Digital Technology and Space Saver Shelving Systems."

Refreshments and music, along with various demonstrations including photo scanning, Past Perfect museum software, historical research, big screen TCHS website and volunteer opportunities will be part of the celebration.

We hope you can attend and bring a friend!

Membership Growing

New Membership Level

The Board of Directors at their August Board of Directors meeting approved a new membership level – STUDENT. The membership available to students, to age 25, is designed to offer low cost memberships to students interested in the history of Tuolumne County and to encourage their participation in the Society, Museum, and History Center. The annual dues for this membership category are set at \$10.

Membership Drive

The Membership Committee, coupled with the revitalized Marketing Committee, chaired by Louis La Force (LLaForce@TCHistory.org), is tackling our membership level which has been dwindling over the last few years. The committees have been inviting past and lapsed members to rejoin with significant results. We currently have 366 memberships.

There will be a mailing in September asking our current members to help us with new memberships by contacting their friends, neighbors, and colleagues and encouraging them to join. The mailing will include our new brochure and membership applications. We hope that you participate in this effort to help re-build or membership roster. You may also request the new brochures by emailing your request to Membership@TCHistory.org, calling the Museum at 209.532.1317, dropping by the Museum, or mailing your request to:

TCHS, Membership
P.O. Box 695
Sonora, CA 95370



President's Message

This has been a busy summer for all hard working officers, directors, governors, committees and all other volunteers. A committee has been hard at work writing policies and procedures for accessioning and deaccessioning donations to the History Collection. We have two new SER workers who have eased the workload of our volunteers and are most welcome additions to our "family". For those of you who are unfamiliar with the SER program, it is a federally funded program designed to train those 55 years old and older to reenter the workplace. SER is an acronym for Service Employment and Redevelopment. We now have four SER workers, each being trained by our Museum and History Center volunteers to perform many and varied tasks. Their contributions are vital in this time of County budget woes that preclude monetary contributions to the Society.

Now that the History Center is functioning, we welcome research and photograph requests. We are planning an open house for Museum Day, September 25. We invite you to drop by for demonstrations, tours, refreshments, and to shop for books, our new 2011 Calendars and other Museum store items, as well as to pick up a SHARE card. Our income has suffered because of the economy and the closure of the History Center during our shelving project so all contributions are gladly accepted.

Due partly to the many hours spent by our Membership Committee volunteers our membership is 366 which is slightly higher than last year which is impressive in light of the fact many organizations are struggling to maintain memberships. Another innovation is a plan to offer Student Memberships at a nominal cost of \$10.00 per year to age 25. A big thanks to our wonderful volunteers who have sent letters, made telephone calls, and provided innovative ideas. I remind new members that we have volunteer opportunities to suit all interests. I also invite you to visit our website for your shopping and entertainment needs.

Another exciting event is the totally new brochure developed by Betty Sparagna with input from Board Members and volunteers; stop by the Museum and pick one up, or several, and pass them around.

Finally, I am sad to report that Joan Bergsund will be moving out of the area. Joan served the Society as President, Director and member of the Publications, Finance, and Lamplight committees over the years and has been a wise counselor to those of us who serve on the Board of Directors. We all hope she can be persuaded to continue her contributions long distance. We wish you well Joan, and we will miss you.

Susan Thompson

We welcome our new members:

Jack & Jacqueline Linford

We would like to thank the following members for renewing their memberships:

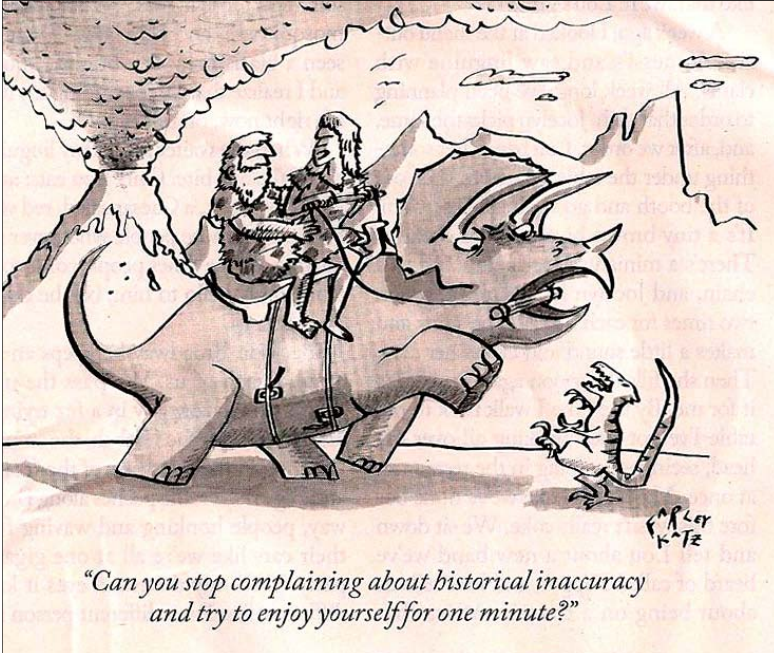
Jerry Cahill
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 Foothill Resources, Ltd—
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 Nicky Jacka & June Russell
 Mark Salazar
 Mary Thibault
 Patricia Tremewan
 Denver Waters
 Wells Fargo Historical Services
 Laura Wheels
 David L. Winter
 David & Sandy Wynne
 Ron & Joanne Yates



Don't forget to use your SHARE card! If you need to pickup a card, they are available at the Tuolumne County Museum desk.

What's So Funny About History?

The California Council for the Promotion of History's (CCPH) 30th annual conference is happening right here in the Southern Mother Lode! All history buffs are cordially invited to be part of the event **October 21—23**.



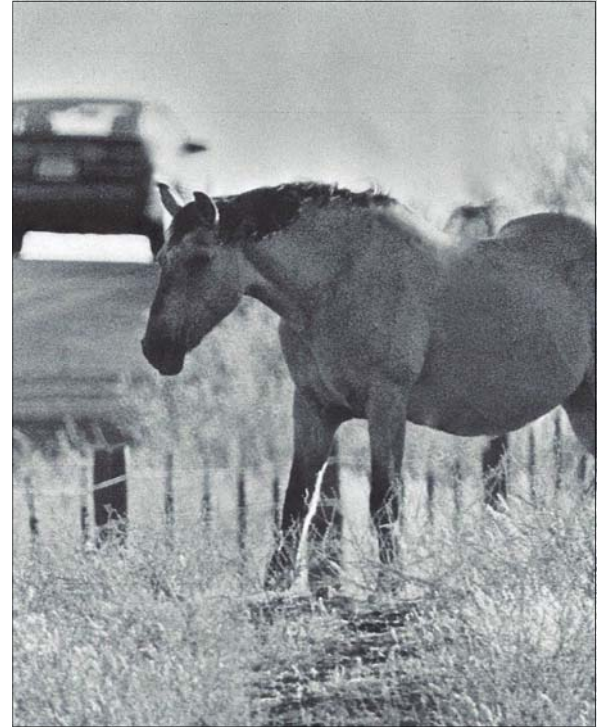
CCPH is a statewide advocate for California history and an effective networking organization for historians, interpreters, teachers, and other historically minded members of the community.

"What's So Funny About History?" the conference theme, seriously explores the role of humor in California's history. This conference will put the spotlight on humor using various venues in Jamestown, Sonora, and Columbia. The CCPH conference includes a Basic Archives Workshop, reception and train ride at Railtown 1897 State Historic Park, a plenary address by renowned author Joann Levy, a full slate of intriguing sessions, a Dead History Tour at the Columbia Cemetery, and a dramatic reading of Rick Foster's play, *The Stephen Hill Affair*.

You do not need to be a member to sign up for the CCPH conference but, if you become one, you get a substantial discount on your registration fee. CCPH is offering Southern Mother Lode residents new to CCPH a half-price, one-year membership with their conference registration—residents of Tuolumne, Calaveras, Amador and Mariposa counties qualify.

For more information visit www.csus.edu/org/ccph/ or call (916) 273-0317.

Remembering Cricket 3



Cricket greeting traffic

Remember the retired buckskin mare that stood on a grassy hill that overlooked State Highway 108/120 near Oakdale? Her name was Cricket and over the years she formed a bond with the passengers in the cars that sped by. Cricket's passing in 1993 was noted in *The Union Democrat* and as a result fan mail poured in to the Taylor family, owners of Cricket. Who knew that Cricket had touched so many people.

In memory of the passing of local rancher Walter "Walt" J. Taylor on December 31, 2009, the Cowboy Museum in Oakdale decided to present the exhibit, "Remembering Cricket," which will be on display throughout the year.



Condolences to the Muriel Baer Family.

Condolences to the Jane Symons Family.



TUOLUMNE COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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SONORA CA 95370-0695

Non-Profit Organization
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Sonora, California

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Mission of the Tuolumne County Historical Society shall be to discover, collect, preserve, and disseminate knowledge about the history of Tuolumne County and the State of California

The *Historian* is published several times a year by the Tuolumne County Historical Society, 158 W. Bradford St. (PO Box 695), Sonora CA 95370-0695 for the benefit of the membership. There is no charge for the *Historian*. (In compliance with Public Law 103-123, 39 U.S.C. 3656 subsection [j].)

**The October monthly program TBD
Check the Society website for a listing:
www.tchistory.org**

LIVING HISTORY DAY

Don't miss the 4th annual Living History Day sponsored by STCHS on **Sat., Oct. 2** from 10 AM to 3 PM in the courtyard of the **Groveland Yosemite Gateway Museum** in Groveland on Hwy. 120. This free, family-oriented event is an interactive living history day with gold panning, candle dipping, weaving, spinning, quilting, rope making, and butter churning, among other pioneer activities. Come for a fun day of food, homemade apple cider, raffles, and entertainment. For a complete listing of the day's events, go to: www.grovelandmuseum.org/STCHS%20&%20Library%20News7.html and click on Living History Day— Experience the Past.

Change in address or email?
Send changes to TCHS, Membership
PO Box 695, Sonora, CA 95370-0695
or email changes to Info@TCHistory.org

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