

# las PLUMAS

A Quarterly Publication of the  
PLUMAS COUNTY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION, INC.



## Welcome

Dear Reader,

I would like to thank everyone who has stepped up and contributed to the Museum during this past year. As you are probably aware, the Museum's staff was reduced to one furloughed employee (myself). We also lost the County's entire contribution to our operating budget, meaning that to keep the doors open and attempt to maintain some semblance of the services that the public has grown accustomed to this obligation has now all fallen on the Museum Association. Unfortunately, this requires money. We have reduced all operating costs to a bare minimum, but some services such as electricity, water & sewer, phones and alarms, propane and several other providers can't or won't make concessions to help us out, so we are stuck with paying full rate on those services.

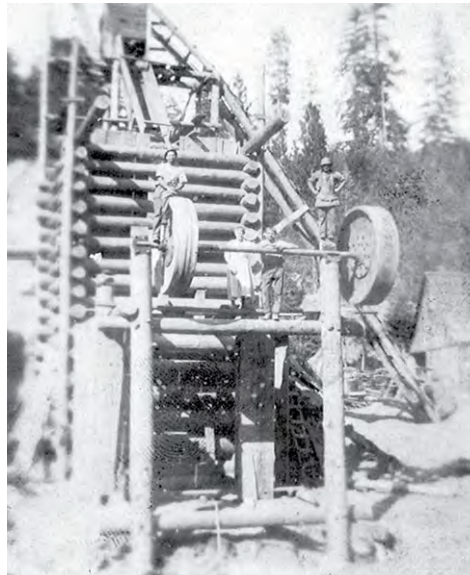
Many of our local businesses and organizations such as California Iota Gamma Master, E Clampus Vitus, Common Good Community Foundation, Feather Publishing, Flanigan Leavitt Insurance, Forest Stationers, Gard Electric, Lambert Construction, Longboards Restaurant, Martin Security, Plumas County Fair, Ranchito Motel, and the U.S. Forest Service have pitched in to help us out when we have asked. Their support is greatly appreciated and I encourage you to support them as well. ■

**Scott Lawson**  
Director

## The history of ARGENTINE

**Many of us are aware of the rocky point jutting out from Grizzly Ridge known as Argentine Rock with a dilapidated fire lookout. Most do not know how it came by its name...**

The Squirrel Creek basin eight miles east of Quincy and in the shadow of Argentine Rock became the site of feverish gold and silver mining activities during the late 1850s into the 1880s, and sporadically thereafter into the early 1900s. Prospectors in the Squirrel Creek, Greenhorn Creek, and Greenhorn Gulch area found rich diggings, and along with placer discoveries, unearthed quartz veins bearing gold and some silver, causing the local paper to rashly declare that a discovery to rival that of the Comstock Lode in Nevada had been uncovered. A mining camp sprang up around 1858 and was first named "Argentina," but was later changed to "Argentine." It suffered the vagaries typical of boom camps: a fluctuating population and erratic investors. Despite this, the camp managed to stay alive into the 1890s, and the name was bestowed on the peak above to this day.



The Old Harry Diggings were the oldest and most prominent on Squirrel Creek. Not surprisingly, water rights quickly became a point of contention. James Humphrey Haun and his associates sued Harvey Terwilliger & Company on February 11th, 1856 to recover possession of the Old Harry Ditch, which Haun apparently had surveyed and constructed the year before. It was stated that this was " ... the oldest and only permanent [sic] Right to said water."

The Old Harry Diggings had been primarily placer operations until William Corse claimed to have been the original discoverer of a gold-bearing quartz vein in the spring of 1859. He and his

.....  
A mining camp sprang up around 1858 and was first named "Argentina," but was later changed to "Argentine."

# Message from the President

We appreciate all the docent support we are getting in these difficult times, making the Museum accessible to those who would not otherwise be able to visit as well as maintaining the quality of the Museum's appearance. We recognize that this shows that the whole Plumas County community is coming together to support the Museum. Members of our Board of Trustees have jumped in as well to take on projects such as processing memberships and memorials, soliciting memberships, managing the financials, planning and promoting events and fundraisers and so forth. Trustee Al Klem, appeared at the Board of Supervisors for public comment to update them on activities and the status of the Museum since the budget cuts. The Board was appreciative of Al's presentation.

While we enjoy providing events for our members and the public, we really need to increase our membership base. If you know a friend or relative who is not a member of the Museum, please encourage them to join, or give them a gift membership, it's easy to do, just drop by or call the Museum at 283-6320 or contact one of the Museum's trustees (listed on the back of this newsletter). Members are one of the reasons for having a Museum and are what keep the Museum functioning. Please take a little time to see that you are up to date in your membership and that your friends and relations are as well. Thank you and I hope to see you at YOUR Museum this year. ■

**Donald C. Clark**, President



**Squirrel Creek miners working a placer deposit around 1914.**

partners announced that they " ... design prospecting the same ... and to erect such machinery as may be found to be necessary to work the same."

W.W. Hudson and James McAllister claimed the Green Horn Quartz Ledge on February 26th, 1858 and declared that " ...it was their bonafide intention to ... thoroughly prospect the ledge." The same day, these two, along with James Yeates, William Corse and Plumas County District Attorney Tom Cox claimed the Plumas Quartz Ledge and the waters of the middle and northwest branches of Spring Garden Creek.

John McLean and John Forbes & Co. staked their hopes on the American Quartz Lead located in the American Diggings " ... in the vicinity of the Diggings called Green Horn ..." on February 15th, 1858 and in April of 1858, Mr. Kennady of Saw Pit Flat, sold his one-third interest in the Argentine Quartz Mill and Ledge to E.A. Heath.

From February 1861 through the autumn of 1862, large companies of men banded together to claim quartz mines up and down the length of Green Horn and Spring Garden creeks. These companies were comprised of miners, ranchers, businessmen, professionals, politicians, and in a few cases, their wives. The North Star Company, Hartzell, Gray & Company, the North

American Company, the Cleopatra Gold & Silver Mining Company and the Grass Valley Company were a few that were formed to try their luck. As a result of this "rush," in November 1862, a local mining district was set up to establish rules and regulations regarding mining claims and ensuing mining issues.

Although silver was also discovered, that aspect never realized much, but the gold mining was productive. Besides hydraulic mines, there were gulch placers, some placer tunnels, and a number of quartz mine operations that supported stamp mills and arastras or Chilean-style mills.

On February 19th, 1864, Plumas House Hotel owner James Edwards sued on a boarding bill and was awarded the Jacob Wettinger Claims on Ophir and Squirrel creeks " ... at the old wagon road from Quincy to Spring Garden." He also garnered several vegetable gardens on Ophir Creek and Squirrel Creek and 30 sluice boxes.

A number of families made Argentine home, and as seen, some even raised vegetable gardens. In January of 1863, William Elliott claimed 80 acres of ranching and timber land on Ophir Creek, now Greenhorn Creek. John A. Crawford also claimed land along Squirrel Creek and Peters Ravine for agricultural

# Living History Days:



Due to this year's staff and budget cuts, the Museum was no longer able to offer the Fourth Grade Living History Days in the manner it has done in the past. We presented an option to the four schools of Plumas County with Pioneer-Quincy Elementary and Portola's C. Roy Carmichael responding that they could participate. Due to the perseverance and take-charge attitude of Lindsay Vert and Julie Hochrein, these two schools are able to enjoy this program. We are very sorry it has come to this, as the Fourth Grade program is one of the stellar countywide programs we were able to offer. We hope that in the future volunteers like Lindsay will be able to keep this program alive and thriving. Thanks to all of Lindsay's volunteers, the Plumas-Sierra Cattlewomen, and to our docents Barry Bailey, Ann Castaldini, Sally & Ray Nichol, Nancy & Keith Nicoles and Denise Russell. ■



**Above: Fourth Grade Living History students pan for gold, bake wood stove biscuits and learn the history of the 1878 Variel Home.**

purposes and named it the Squirrel Creek Ranch.

Mining was, of course, still the main interest. In 1864 it was reported: "Several hundred pounds of rock has been taken out of the Howard Company's ledge, at Argentine, for the purpose of having it shipped to San Francisco, to be assayed by a working process."

In November 1867, Crawford & Co. located and commenced work upon some claims at the mouth of Green Horn Gulch, near Argentine. The ground had never been prospected, but was supposed by everyone acquainted with that section to be very rich. This would later become the Great Republic Mine.

Fifteen years after Argentine's

inception, *The Plumas National* of January 18th, 1873 published the following on the small camp:

- **Argentine. – This little camp promises to be a lively one this winter. Heath & Co. have their preparations nearly completed and will open out in grand style as soon as the winter is over. We have always thought this is one of the most valuable claims in the county and have no doubt but that it will be proven so by this coming season's run. The company has a fine water privilege and have lately added all the modern improvements in hydraulic mining. The quartz operators are making ready for a vigorous siege and times will be lively as soon as the spring work commences.**



**Hand-staked rock wall along an old wagon road at the Heath Mine, Argentine, 2008.**

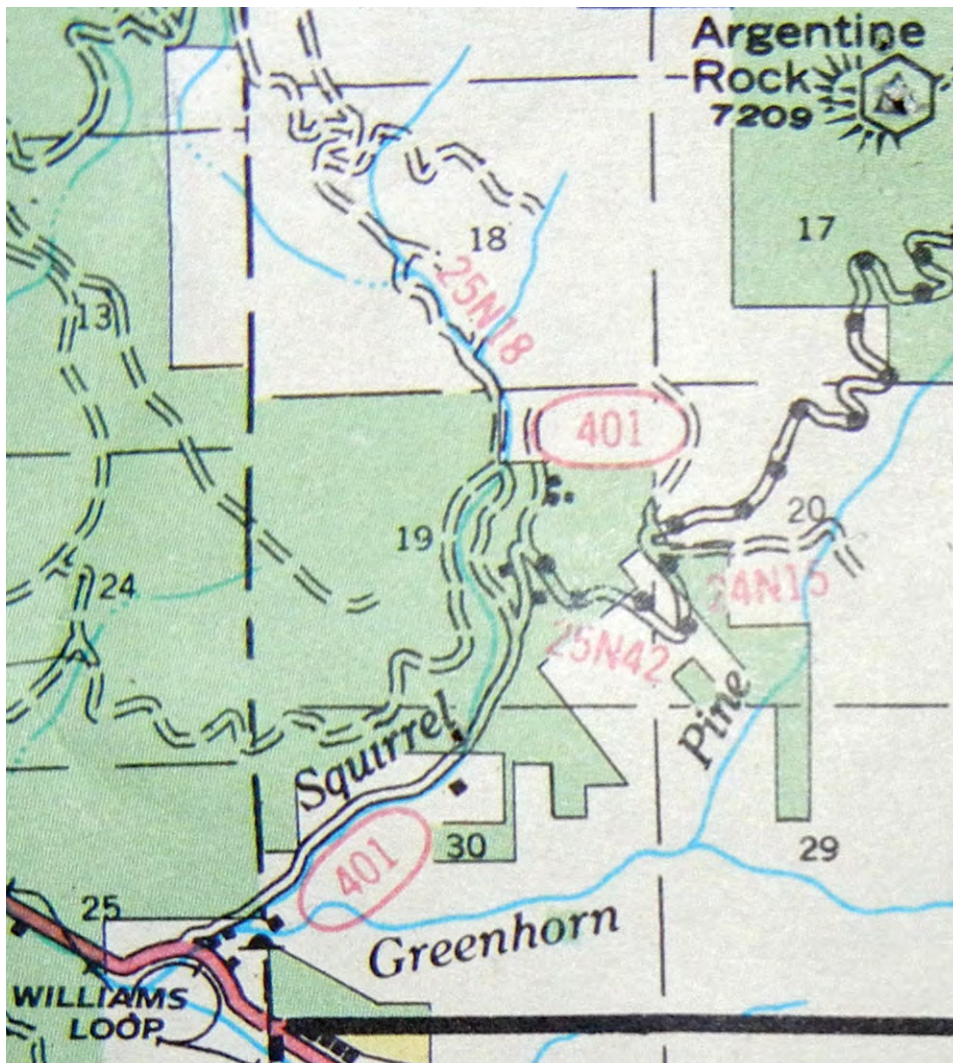
In seeming contrast, the following month the paper listed delinquent taxes that included the Talc Mining Company's 1,400 feet of quartz ledge, its quartz mill, and a boarding house near the mine. Lightner & Dawson's Keystone Quartz Mine between "Argentina mining camp and William Johnson's Ranch and a water ditch leading the water from Squirrel Creek to the mine" were also tax casualties.

Hope springs eternal, and despite these listings, by April the paper reported that,

- *Argentina. – Heath & Co. are running about 500 inches through their Chief and will 'keep up their lick' as long as water lasts. Duesler has made a short run with the Talc Mill with good results, cleaning up about five hundred dollars for a run of ten days. He has been sinking on the ledge, is twenty feet down, and has a vein of good paying quartz seven feet in width. This mine when properly opened and worked will be a good paying investment.*

In the fall of 1873 J.W. Duesler and W. Frank Stewart located an asbestos ledge immediately on the road to Argentine and eight miles east of Quincy (near today's Spring Garden Overhead). Because of the mineral's many applications, the discovery was reported to probably be "a valuable property." Also that fall, the Hobart Bros. of Virginia City, Nevada had possession of the Niagara Mine and mill at Argentine, as well as an abandoned arastra operation lower down in Spring Garden Creek.

On September 14th, 1882, John Pedit and Hannah Murphy, both of Argentine, were married in Marysville. Upon their return to Argentine they were greeted at the residence of Mr. Schippman where the Argentine & Spring Garden String Band turned out, and with the assistance of plenty of cake and champagne, kept things



The town of Argentine sat approximately where sections 19,20,29 and 30 meet. Little remains of the town today, most of which lies on private property.

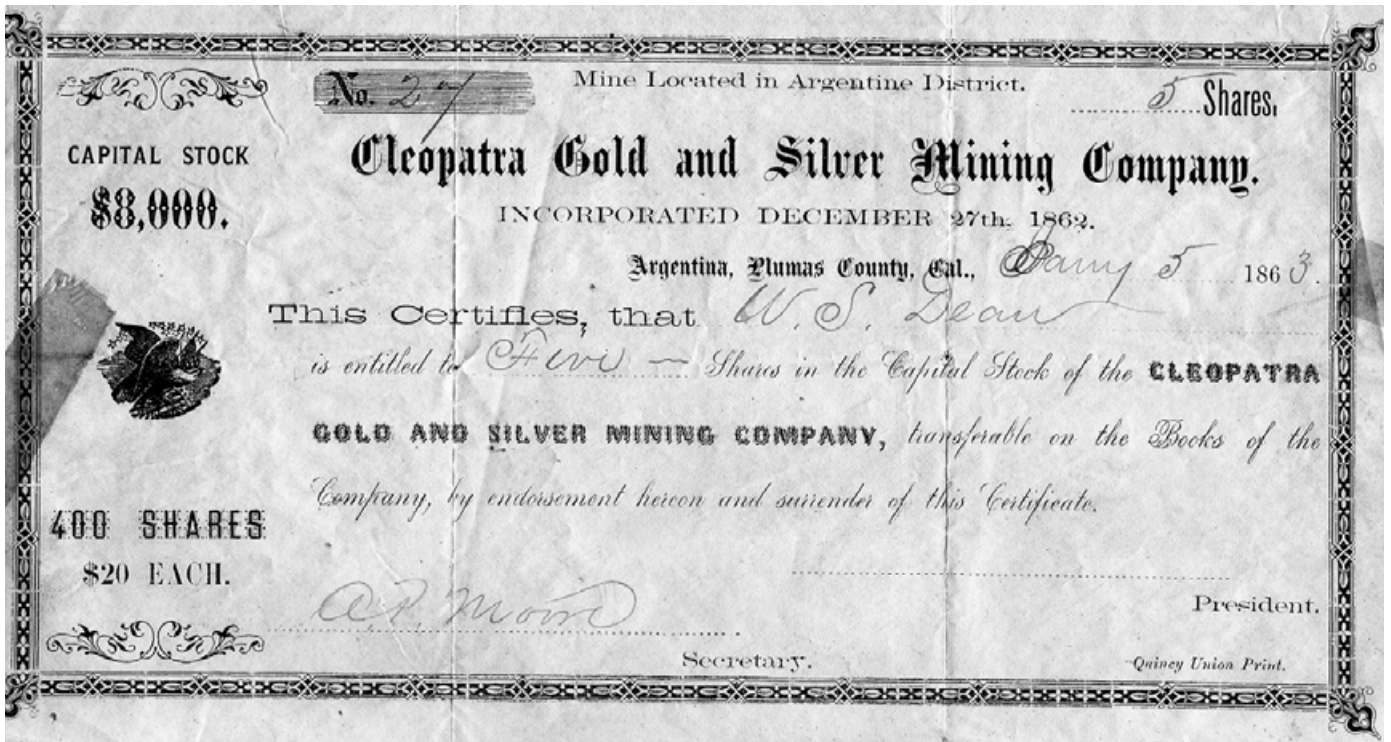
lively until a late hour.

Florian Gansner, a Quincy sawmill operator filed a suit in 1884 against the Keystone Mining Company, resulting in him acquiring their property at Argentine. Gansner had furnished lumber for the boarding house known as Dawson's Dwelling House near the eight-stamp Keystone Mill, Walsh's office with a sleeping room adjoining the Dawson house, the flume conveying water from the old ditch to the mill wheel, and the flume carrying water from Squirrel Creek across the head of Heath's diggings.

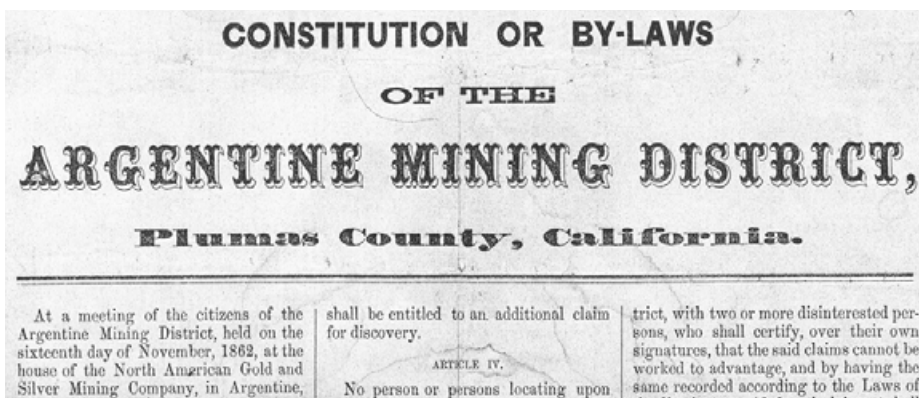
Mining is a dangerous occupation, fraught with minor injuries at best, and severe or fatal ones at worst. In early August 1886, Thos. Thomas and Frank Johnson were precipitated

40 feet down the Mills Shaft at the Great Republic Mine when the brake failed on the hoist taking their bucket up. They were severely injured, with fears Thomas would die. He lay on the bottom of the shaft some two or three hours before a basket could be fabricated to haul him out.

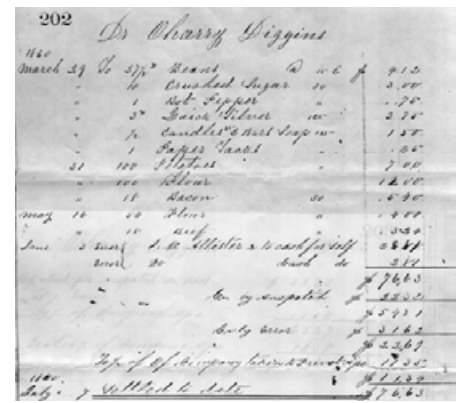
As time wore on, economically feasible gold deposits became rare and the now antiquated recovery processes were not capable of making a remunerative return on much of the lower grade material. Despite this, enough gold remained recoverable so that mining continued at Argentine and environs through the 1880s and into the '90s before declining to some degree in the early 1900s. Certain lodes such as the Gold Leaf Mine and combination lode-



The Cleopatra Gold and Silver Mining Company issued stock certificates in 1863 to its shareholders. Wilson S. Dean was one of the hopeful millionaires.



Heading from the full-page Constitution or By-Laws of the Argentine Mining District, 1862.



Bill of sale for goods for the O'Harry (Old Harry) Diggings Co. dated 1860.

gravel deposits like the Andes and Heath provided the bulk of work for the few miners left.

By 1920, almost no appreciable activity was occurring at Argentine. However, the Old Harry diggings were still putting out, and in June 1911 it was reported that Robert McAuley was in Quincy from the Crown Point mine where he and his partner, C.H. Grill, had the Old Harry claim of the Crown Point group leased from Henry Gobert. They had struck a ledge that was so rich that the gold could be seen with the naked eye. Several decades later, in the 1930s, the economic woes of the Great Depression brought

many new prospectors into the old diggings with hopes of gleaning something missed by the earlier miners.

With this new interest, the Squirrel Creek basin saw resurgence in mining. Gold Leaf and Bluff City were two mines that were reopened and proved somewhat successful for a time. Bluff City, never idle for long during its lifetime was worked until about 1942 with a small crew, while a few sole operators worked over adjacent old diggings. Famed for its many gold nugget discoveries, Squirrel Creek was the site of the uncovering of the "Inauguration Nugget" found by James Elliott

on the day of the inauguration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in January 1934. Elliott stated to the local paper, "The New Deal has certainly arrived."

Many of the mining claims in the lower reaches of the Squirrel Creek basin were patented, becoming private property. From the early to mid-20th century most of the ground was sold to timber companies, such as Louisiana Pacific, with the current owner being Sierra Pacific Industries. Several other private citizens own land in the area. Unfortunately, over the years logging activities have degraded many historic sites, ditches, and wagon roads. ■

# Museum VOLUNTEERS:

## 1878 VARIEL HOME

On May 10 the 1878 Variel Home enjoyed a spring cleaning courtesy of the cleanup crew composed of Ann Castaldini, Sherie Grate, Ken Green, Nancy & Keith Nicoles. The Variel Home will be open for tours from Memorial Day weekend until late October.

**Plumas County Museum Open Sundays** – Docent Linda Reid Wallace has volunteered to keep the Museum open on Sundays starting May 5. As of this writing, the hours will be 10 to 3. Besides cataloging artifacts, Linda has also developed a small exhibit on volunteer fire departments of Plumas County utilizing in part items recently donated by Quincy's Tati Erickson. Featured is a brass speaking trumpet, round bottom bucket, various patches, badges, caps, and photographs.

Museum docents Sherie Grate and Keith Nicoles teamed up to rebuild the Museum's barbed wire collection display originally assembled and

donated by the late John & Gladys Gray of Quincy. Entitled "Barbed Wire that Won the West," it is a collection of some 47 different styles of barbed wire the Grays collected before making the donation on October 9, 1969. Over the years, barbed wire collectors have amassed upwards of 600 different styles of this prickly metal from all over the American west.

Behind the scenes, Nancy Nicoles has been busy cataloging the Museum's massive collection of Abstracts of Title, documents detailing the chain of ownership of various properties throughout Plumas County since its earliest days. The collection was donated by Fidelity Title when they closed shop in Quincy.

Retired Museum Registrar, and now a volunteer, Jo Ann Filippi of Meadow Valley has been documenting and cataloging items in the Museum's extensive

archival collection. Comprised of thousands upon thousands of items ranging from pioneer diaries, court documents, postcard and photograph albums, scrapbooks, unpublished manuscripts, civic, fraternal and sorority organization documents, business records and much more, she estimates that she should complete the task sometime around the year 2525! Lisa Hopman has also been working diligently on our Superior Court cases collection, and with only some twenty or thirty thousand cases to go, she is confident she will be right there with Jo Ann in 2525.

Yardmaster Sally Nichol has been working hard in the 1878 Variel Home gardens and the 1875 Hall-Lawry House yards de-winterizing and coaxing out the spring shrubs and flowers. At any given time you might find her down amongst the roses and thorns pulling weeds and transplanting bulbs.



Docent Sherie Grate with one of the two barbed wire display panels she refurbished.



Both the inside and the outside of the Variel Home received a good sprucing up on May 10. Nancy and Keith Nicoles are shown above working in the back yard



From left to right: Faith Strahley, Sally Nichol and Rita Christensen along with canine helper Peaches in the front weeding the flower beds of the museum.



Ken Myers and Bill Henwood have been our 1922 Studebaker truck crew since the passing of Docent Len Mosley last fall. Unfortunately, they have hit a roadblock with some obsolete parts, namely the starter and generator, and have had to put the project on hold. In light of this, Museum Trustee Charlie Brown has arranged with the Quincy High School Auto Shop to have them take on the project this fall. We are excited that they have the interest and resources to get this project back on track and finished. We really appreciate all the work that Ken, Bill, Len and Norm Lambert have put into the truck since we acquired it. Ken Porteous of Lake Almanor West has also stepped up with sorely needed rare parts for the truck.

We are also hoping to move the

Spanish Peak Lumber Co. locomotive No.2 soon. Plans are to construct a small temporary storage shed for it at the fairgrounds, with a short section of track to run it back and forth on until we can get the actual railroad constructed. Anyone with pole shed construction experience is encouraged to contact us to help with this long running fun project.

As we gear up for spring and summer we have several new tour guides for the 1878 Variel Home to give tours to Museum visitors. Keith and Nancy Nicoles, Denise Russell and Linda Reid Wallace have volunteered to take some of the pressure off of long-time Variel Home guide Ann Castaldini.

Be sure to come by the Plumas County Museum to see these changes and more. Our regular hours are Wednesday through Saturdays, 8 to 5 and remember, starting May 5, on Sundays we will be open from 10 to 3, but due to staff reductions, please call ahead at 530-283-6320 to confirm hours and tour availability.

# Events

## Quincy Chamber Mixer

Quincy Chamber of Commerce will join with local businesswoman C.C. Reynolds to host a Chamber Mixer at the Plumas County Museum on Wednesday, June 19. Featured will be tours of the Museum's back rooms where many county records, local artifacts and other items are stored, as well as tours of the 1878 Variel Home. Everyone is encouraged to come by and enjoy the event.

## Mohawk Valley Cemetery Tour:

The Museum Board of Trustees elected to not hold the annual Art & Artifacts Auction this year and instead held a historical program on the Mohawk Valley and a tour of the historic Mohawk Cemetery, followed by hors d'oeuvres and cocktails at Longboards Restaurant. This very well attended event took place on Saturday, June 1.

**Saturday, September 14, 2013:** Third Annual "Grave Occasion" at the Historic Quincy Cemetery, 4 p.m. till dusk.

Historical characterizations, catered dinner, wine, raffles, silent auction, live entertainment, more. Tickets \$50 for Museum Members, \$60 Non-Members.



## Summerfest at White Sulphur Springs Ranch



5<sup>th</sup> Annual Concert Fundraiser Sunday, June 30

Tickets available at the Museum.

# Projects NEEDING ATTENTION

We need a new roof, the one on the Museum having been installed in 1968 (the same year as our carpeting), but in lieu of that project, we are happy to have any help we can get with smaller, less imposing outdoor projects:

- Restoration of our vintage wooden washing machines
- Restoration of our cider press
- Restoration of our wood cooking range and other appliances
- Installation of agricultural display
- Cleaning blacksmith shop
- Cleaning and inventory of Gifford miners cabin
- Trim and pull weeds along walkways and around buildings
- Reset upraised bricks in walkways in various locations
- Build wood ore car trestle to stamp mill
- Rebuild wooden ore car
- Coat all outdoor metal and wood items with linseed oil
- Paint outdoor items as appropriate
- Hang Walkermine aerial commodities car
- Peppard Cabin (at fairgrounds) projects
- Pioneer School (at fairgrounds) projects
- Picnic tables refurbished
- Mow the 1875 Hall-Lawry House lawn and weed beds

The Peppard Cabin and the Pioneer School, both at the fairgrounds but under stewardship of the Museum, are in need of a great deal of repair and upgrades. If any one out there is interested in taking on these projects, please contact the Museum at 283-6320. We can supply most of the needed materials; we just need workers with power tools and experience.

Our Exhibit Yard behind the Museum is also in dire need of assistance. No matter how hard we try to keep ahead of the weeds, they seem to come back in spades! A crew of six dedicated weed pullers and rakers should be able to bring it under control in one day. We would appreciate any help we can get with that project.

## INDOOR PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Updating our outdated historical photos panels (needs an artistic eye)
- Scanning, copying and archiving our historical photos collection
- Cleaning glass, dusting artifacts
- Accessioning artifacts and Archival Collection documents
- Tour guide for Variel Home
- Historical inquiries research
- Inventory and arrange Museum Research Library shelves

## BLACKSMITH SHOP HOURS

Our resident Blacksmith, Ray Nichol, will hold court over his forge on the following dates (please call ahead to confirm):

May 25; June 15; July 27; August 24; September 28.



## Mezzanine Gallery Exhibit

The Plumas County Museum is excited to announce that Ann Donnenth Hardin is showing her oil and watercolor paintings on the Stella Fay Miller Mezzanine Gallery for the months of May and June.



**Ann Donnenth Hardin**

Ann is a native of Delleker, Plumas County and a member of the pioneer Donnenth family of Taylorsville and Portola. Her artwork is focused primarily on Plumas and Sierra County scenes and people. Ann has been painting for the past seven or eight years at both her homes in Santa Rosa and in Graeagle. She has graciously offered to donate all proceeds from sales of her work to the Museum.

Be sure to drop by and view her exhibit Wednesdays through Saturdays 8-5 and Sundays 10-3.



# Museum MEMORIALS

*The Museum's Memorial program was instituted in 1970 as a means to accept donations in memory of departed loved ones and ensure that the Museum would be able to provide some of its many programs. Whenever a donation is made in memory of a loved one a card of acknowledgement is sent to the donor, a notification card is sent to the family of the deceased, and that person's Memorial Biography is entered into our Memorial Volumes where it can be viewed and shared with friends and family. Memorials have been given in memory of the following individuals since our Fall 2012 newsletter:*

Marilynn Britton, Quincy; Leda Brown, Quincy; Sharon Clark, Quincy; Mary Dovi, Quincy; Ruth Egbert, Sattley; Kathy Fehrman, Quincy; Roger Haas, Quincy; Jerry Holland, Quincy; Scott Kelly, Quincy; Marilyn Kielhorn, Quincy; Mary McAndrus, Mountain View, CA; Claude McColm, Quincy; Shirley McLean, Quincy; Leonard Mosley, Quincy; Edith O'Rourke, Quincy/Gainesville, FL; Elmer Roberti, Sierra Valley/Loyalton; Ron Seibold, Quincy/Hollister; Laverne Sharp, Quincy; Virginia Wilson, Quincy.

**Memorial Donations By:** Phyllis Orr Baldwin, Boerne, TX; Marilyn Britton, Quincy; Mildred Burris, Woodinville, WA; Pat & Janna Cook, Graeagle; Bill Dore, Quincy; Tati Erickson, Quincy; Ron & Fay George, Sebastran, FL; Robert & Sharon

Gravert, Sacramento; Ted & Betty Hoskins, Quincy; Fred & Susan Howe, Quincy; Lois Jones, Quincy; Rick & Cynthia Knapp, Citrus Heights; Paul & Linda Leimbach, Libby MT; Carol Leonhardt, Quincy; Guy McNett & Linda Batson, Crescent Mills; DeAnne Mosley, Quincy; Meridy Muir, Quincy; Ray & Sally Nichol, Quincy; Thelma Olson, Meadow Valley; Betty Penland, Quincy; Orphie & Kay Pierson, Quincy; Lisa Richardson, Socorro, NM; Elmer & Ilene Sanson, Yuma, AZ; Art & Eileen Scarlett, Reno, NV; Marvin & Norberta Schmidt, Quincy; James & Rhonda Skow, Quincy; Kent & Lena Stokes, Arroyo Grande; Ted & Mary Trafton, Quincy; Tom & Diane Uchtyl, Quincy; Evelyn Whisman, Quincy; Jay & Judy Wright, Quincy; Louise Young, Quincy.

## Monetary Donations

*We would like to thank the following individuals for their generous monetary contributions to the Museum. Without your continued support we cannot continue to operate at the level that our residents and visitors have come to expect.*

### Monetary Donations:

**Up to \$99:** Phyllis Orr Baldwin, Boerne, TX; Marilyn Britton, Quincy; Pat & Janna Cook, Graeagle; Bill Dore, Quincy; Ron & Fay George, Sebastran, FL; Joseph & Mary Harlan, Quincy; Freylene Herring, Portland, OR; Marianna Hoolhorst, Taylorsville/Berkeley; Fred & Susan Howe, Quincy; Rick & Cynthia Knapp, Citrus Heights; Al & Carol Klem, Quincy; Paul & Lidna Leimbach, Libby, MT; Carol Leonhardt, Quincy; Guy McNett & Linda Batson, Crescent Mills; Don

Miller, PG&E; DeAnne Mosley, Quincy; Ray & Sally Nichol, Quincy; Thelma Olson, Meadow Valley; Forest Peter, Richmond; Jeff & Lani Rockholm, Quincy; Elmer & Ilene Sanson, Yuma, AZ; Marvin & Norberta Schmidt, Quincy; Alan Stangenberger, Albany; Kent & Lena Stokes, Arroyo Grande; Bill & Sally Tantau, Clio; Fred & Sharon Thon, Quincy; Ted & Mary Trafton, Quincy; Evelyn Whisman, Quincy; Jay & Judy Wright, Quincy; Louise Young, Quincy.

**\$100 - \$249:** Dorris Beck, Quincy; Vance & Marilyn Bell, Reno, NV; Marc Coventry, Martinez; Tom DeMund, Graeagle/Sausalito; Tati Erickson, Quincy; Jim & Kay Farris, Quincy; Margaret Goodart, Quincy; Robert & Sharon Gravert, Sacramento; Ted & Betty Hoskins, Quincy; California Iota Gamma Master, Quincy; Lois Jones,

Quincy; Patrick & Camille Leonhardt, Rocklin; Calvin & Nguyet Mehlert, Camp Connell; John & Marge Murray, Quincy; Betty Penland, Quincy; Art & Eileen Scarlett, Reno, NV; Altalee Larison Stout, Sacramento; Tom & Diane Uchtyl, Quincy; Robert & Linda Waldo, Oneill, NE (in name of Doug & Joyce Tande); Valerie Vann, Davis; Rob & Doreen Wood, Quincy.

**\$250 - \$499:** Gerald Pauly, Sacramento; Tietz Family Foundation, Healdsburg.

**\$500 - \$999:** Mildred Burris, Woodinville, WA; Common Good Community Foundation, Blairsden; Judy Metzker, Reno, NV.

**\$1000 - \$2499:** Kathryn Hale, Clio/Walnut Creek; Orphie & Kay Pierson, Quincy.

# Donated ARTIFACTS:

SINCE MAY 2012

*We would like to thank the following people for their generous donations of artifacts*

Richard Altman: Two double barrel shotguns, one Minometer metal detector with case, accessories, and instructions c.1900-1914; Dee Barbea: Two pairs of gold rim spectacles and one case, c. 1940s; Julie Barto: One CD of photographs of Quincy, the Peter, Johnson, and Wookey families; Eldon and Liz Blum: One Stars and Stripes newspaper, 1919; Julie Chapman: Two Plumas County High School class photos, c. 1930; Sara Conklin: Five books on old telephone identification and history, several Antique Telephone Collectors Association newsletters; Barbara Emerich: Collection of 33 B&W photos mainly of Feather River Inn, its activities, personnel, and guests, and of the Blairsden fire of 1930; Tati Erickson: One charm bracelet with seven telephone charms, one 1945 Quincy High School class ring, one cowboy boot earring carved from a toothbrush, one collection of Quincy Fire Department items, including patches, drinking glasses, ball jacket, uniform hat, t-shirts, pins, etc. c.1950-1990; Jo Ann Filippi: One 1887 botany book, one 1910 children's book; Medrith Glover: Assorted documents, cards, 1958 tax returns, re: Moon family; Tim Henry family: One nail apron advertising American Valley Lumber Co., one ECV pin c.1970-1980; Gregory Henton: One Native American pestle, two Native American manos, one WWI remembrance pillow, one French silk kerchief souvenir, one Xeroxed bottle book; Charles Hornbeck: 12-page typed oral interview with donor's father-in-law, Ray Wood, re: working at White Pine Lumber Co., Clover Valley Lumber Co., Calif. Fruit Exchange, etc.; Jim Huffman: One



1942 Quincy High School yearbook, one photo of the Plumas County Courthouse c. 1940-1945; Rich Jameson: One leather bound journal from an unidentified Greenville store c. 1876, containing newspaper clippings, plant specimens, Jameson family notes; Norman Lamb: Folder of various Plumas County business letterheads from the 1930s-1940s, attorney letterhead from Paskenta, 1954 specifications for Pioneer Elementary School; Yvonne McMaster: Stereoscope and stereoscope card collection; Emelia Miguel: Store ledger from Seneca area dating 1883-1920s; Betty Miller: Collection of Winter family materials, including cyanotype, report card, books, tortoise shell hair combs, framed Civil War discharge papers, handmade quilts, child's wicker rocking chair, Effanbee Lovums doll, etc.; Molly Mitchell: One wedding certificate for Lillian Langhorst and Thomas Jones, 1902; Rick Mugele: Two Massack Logging Railroad rail splice bars; Don Nelson: One Quincy Town Hall Theatre entertainment guide, July 1951 with Nelson Well Drilling invoice on obverse; Aaron and Katie Payne: One handmade Maidu bird trap from Plumas County; Gregory Payne: One red letter edition Holy Bible belonging to Emily Bar; June Reeves: Collection of 16 photographs attributed to the Bony family of Sierraville and Sierra Valley; Dink Rife: One pencil drawing of the old Clairville School by H.T. Settle; Scott Lawson: One Indian Valley Creamery milk can, one watercolor painting by Doris McArthur, two bowls from Hotel Quincy, 1964, one pair of license plate frames from Quincy's

Mansell auto dealership c. 1955 -1966, one 1917 Literary Digest magazine; Sierra County Historical Society: One 1899 Shenandoah Mining and Development Company stock certificate; Pete Smalley: One restored 1947 Mall chainsaw used by the Smalley brothers, 1955-1957; Larry Sternberg: One pair

of leather chaps, c. 1910, used on a ranch in the Sloat area; John Taylor: One pewter spoon, one ox shoe; Jerry Thomas: Collection of Hogan-Maxwell family materials, including photos, newspapers, scrapbooks, illustrations; Lucille Whiting: One history book on California, several newspapers and clippings re: Plumas County floods, Gulf War, etc.; Louise Young: Ledger and letters box for records of the American Legion Auxiliary, 1928-1973.

## Out of Town CALLERS

**International:** We had visitors from eleven different nations visit the Museum over the past year: The came from Australia, Canada (British Columbia and Quebec), England, France (Antibes), Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Norway, Spain, and Switzerland.

**Out of state:** Representatives of thirty-one states plus the District of Columbia stopped by to enjoy the Museum over the past year. They came from Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Washington D.C., Wisconsin.

# New MEMBERS

SINCE MAY 2012

We would like to sincerely thank all of our renewing members and warmly greet our newest members listed below!

**Individuals:** Carol McKeivitt, Alameda; George Schucehenzuber III, Quincy; Roger Settlemire, Quincy; Richard White, Fremont; Joseph Williams, Tigard, OR.

**Family:** Ty & Suellen Cobb, Reno, NV; Karl & Nancy Ehat, Redwood City; George & Karen Fraser, Rocklin; Kyle & Eliza Hardee, Quincy; Jim Heiland, Monterey; Bill & Sharon Lahey, Redwood City; Robert & Nadine Lahey, Redwood City; Sam & Susie Lahey, Burlingame; Nita Lewis and David Lewis, San Francisco; Tony O'Rourke, Sutter; Bruce Rolen, Williams; Karen & George Fraser, Rocklin; Bill Seney, Danville; Tom & Gail Simon, Reno, NV; L.C. "Tig" Tarlton, Clito

**Patron:** Tom & Maureen Forster, Blairsden; Marie Meilan, Nampa, ID; Judy Metzker, Reno, NV; Lois Pryor, Sausalito; Bob & Doreen Wood, Quincy; Bill Ellard, Rocklin.

## BUSINESS LEVEL BENEFITS

Join *Ranchito Motel* and *Flanigan Leavitt Insurance* as BUSINESS MEMBERS...



Are You Aware of our Business Level Membership? In addition to receiving the quarterly newsletter you can also:

1. **Have your business in the newsletter.**
2. **Receive an attractive certificate, suitable for framing and**
3. **Have a link from the Museum's website to your business website.**

If you would like to help out the Museum and enjoy these benefits, just send a business card, the 'URL' for your business website, and a check for \$150 to:

**PCMA, 500 Jackson Street, Quincy, CA 95971**

## MEMBERSHIP

# Challenge

We are very excited that Museum life member **Lee Robertson** (at the young age of 93) has issued a membership challenge in the amount of \$2,000! Lee will match every new membership we enroll dollar for dollar up to that amount. Please help us by encouraging your friends and family members to join the Museum – it means your efforts will be doubled.

## Trustee spotlight:

### Diane Uchtyl

My name is Diane Uchtyl. I am a retired bookkeeper. I became a Trustee for the Plumas County Museum in 2010. My husband, Tom and I moved to Quincy in 1996 and we became very fascinated with our local history. We enjoy getting out in our forest and traveling the backcountry roads to study historic locations and see our beautiful scenery. I enjoy horseback riding out on our trails



Museum Trustee Diane Uchtyl enjoying a ride at the now toppled Snake Tree in Squaw Queen Valley.

and camping and am a member High Mountain Riders. I'm also a member of Sierra Access Coalition to help preserve our back country access. My winter sport of choice is x-country skiing.

The reason I became a trustee for the museum is to help care for our museum, which contains so much history that should be shared with the residents and visitors of Plumas County and protected for future generations. Please come visit the museum soon and see all the wonderful history that belongs to all of us.

### Al Klem

My name is Al Klem and I became a member of the Plumas County Museum Association Board of Trustees in the fall of 2012. I moved to Plumas County from Crescent City with my wife and son in 2005 and am employed by CAL FIRE as an Area Forester. History has always fascinated me because to understand the present it is important to try and understand our past. When time permits, I enjoy volunteering at the museum and when I heard of a vacancy

on the board I jumped at the opportunity to become a member. When reading local history I have noticed how often the Plumas County Museum is acknowledged as a valuable resource. I can also attest to how frequently the museum is used by local resource professionals when determining the likelihood of historic and prehistoric resources being in their project area.

I often hear how important tourism is to Plumas County's economic vitality and I cannot imagine a flourishing tourist industry without the attraction of our local museum. The Board of Trustees consists of members who genuinely care for the welfare of the county and are passionate about Plumas County's historic legacy. I am proud to serve on the Board and encourage those with similar interests to support the museum and keep the legacy alive.



Museum Trustee Al Klem at the Jim Beckwourth Cabin Museum.

# 2013 Exhibits on the Stella Fay Miller Mezzanine

## January-February:

Joe Willis – Seldom Seen Delights – Photos & Drawings

## March-April:

Plumas County Museum  
Historical Art Collection

## May-June:

Ann Donnenwirth Hardin –  
Landscapes of Plumas & Sierra Counties –  
Paintings

## July-August: Willie Hyman - Photographs of

People & Places

## September-October:

Gary Wagner – Sierra Mountain Wilderness –  
B&W Photography

## November-December:

Heidi Wakefield-Meuser –  
Hanging By A Thread – Paintings



## Bookstore!

New items on the shelves include West Side

Lumber Co.; The Towle Bros. Lumber Co.; and Plumas-Sierra Seniors - Their Stories, plus over 100 other local and regional titles.

## STAFF:

Scott Lawson - Director

## TRUSTEES:

Ken Barnard, Graeagle  
Charlie Brown, Quincy  
Don Clark, Graeagle (President)  
Bob Darling, Graeagle  
Pete Dryer, Twain  
Bob Edwards, Quincy  
Al Klem, American Valley  
Sandra Lee, Quincy  
Jerry Thomas, Quincy/Amer. Valley  
Diane Uchytel, American Valley

## DIRECTORS:

Tandy Bozeman, District 3  
Doug Ely, District 4  
Norman Lamb, District 2  
Helen Roberti, District 1  
William Tantau, District 5

*-Appointed by the Board of Supervisors.*

• Individual Membership \$25 • Family \$35 • Patron \$100 • Sustaining \$1000 • Corporate \$150

Please mail your check to Plumas County Museum, 500 Jackson St., Quincy CA 95971

*Please check your mailing label for your membership EXPIRATION DATE. Due to the increased printing and postage costs, we cannot send newsletters to non-renewing members.*

## Plumas County Museum Association, Inc.

500 Jackson Street

Quincy CA 95971

[www.plumasmuseum.org](http://www.plumasmuseum.org)

Non-Profit Org.

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