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Museum's Annual **GRAVE OCCASION** Dead Marches to New Digs



Smokey Pickett & Gang serve up libations at a previous event.

Join us on Saturday, September 15, when the historic Taylorsville Cemetery will be the setting for this year's *Grave Occasion Cemetery Tour & Dinner* – the Museum's annual fundraising extravaganza. This year's cemetery tour, through the oak-shaded glen in Taylorsville, comes alive as we unearth some of the movers and shakers of Indian Valley, Genesee, and Taylorsville during the 1800s. Joining

our procession of beyond-the-grave characters this year are such notable stiffes as Genesee Valley ranchers, Robert Flournoy and wife Angeline and Edwin Hosselkus and wife Mary, Taylorsville hotel & roadhouse owner & operator, John Hardgrave and wife Diana, Taylorsville rancher and business owner, John C. Young and wife Ella, and, of course, town founder, store owner, and hotel operator, Job Taylor and wife Sophia.

Joining this cortege with their spectral presence will also be Elizabethtown founder and Justice of the Peace, Lewis Stark and Methodist Episcopal minister, farmer, and snow-slide survivor, James Gentry. A presentation on the life of freedwoman, beekeeper, and landowner, Abbie Fort, by the intrepid Tina Terrazas, who is also in charge of rounding up our cavalcade of actors, is also in the works.

As for the dinner part of our event, we plan to retire indoors to the Indian Valley Museum community room where, taking a cue from 19th Century Vernon House proprietor, John Hardgrave, we will be offering a service that is “first-class throughout” with “ample accommodations,” and where “the table will always be supplied with the best in the market.” To that end, the dinner will feature a menu of stuffed chicken accompanied by fresh salads and starches, and culminating in a delectable dessert, all lovingly prepared to perfection



Job Taylor's grave.

by the State award-winning Greenville High School culinary arts class under the direction of Judy Dolphin. This will truly be an Indian Valley fine dining experience and is

not to be missed.

The event kicks off at 3:00 with wine and hors d'oeuvres, and we close the lid on the event around dusk (usually around 7 PM). Be sure to get your tickets now as they tend to sell out quickly, and there are only a limited number available. You can purchase tickets in person at the Museum, by contacting us with a credit card number at 283-6320 (a small processing fee will be applied), or by visiting our Museum Store on our website: www.plumasmuseum.org and clicking on "Events." Tickets are also available from any of the members of our Board of

Trustees (listed on the back of this publication). Tickets are available for Members at \$50 each and Non-Members are \$60 each. We encourage you to become a member and begin saving today!

We want to remind you that the Indian Valley Museum is open from 1 – 4 PM on the Saturday of our event, so please support them by arriving early and allowing time to peruse the Museum. After acquainting yourself with a little Indian Valley history at the Museum, you can head right next door to our Grave Occasion event at the Taylorsville Cemetery.



Knoll family plot.

A Brief History of THE TAYLORSVILLE CEMETERY

Prior to its use as a cemetery, parts of this picturesque hilled area were used by the local Maidu as a village site, and to the north is a Maidu cemetery that is still in use today. With the arrival and permanent settlement of Indian Valley by Job Taylor and others in the 1850s, the area was set aside as a cemetery for the growing town of Taylorsville. Although there may have been earlier burials here, the earliest recorded burial is that of Caroline Tovey (b. 1840) who died on December 29, 1861. Many early Plumas County pioneers, and particularly those of Indian Valley, are buried here, including many people who were instrumental in the political, economic, and cultural development of early Plumas County. The Taylorsville Cemetery District Board, hired staff, and volunteers are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the Taylorsville Cemetery. Today, over 150 years after its first burial, the Taylorsville Cemetery continues to serve the people of Taylorsville and Indian Valley as an active, historically important cemetery.

A Museum Founder's Son Carries On His **HISTORIC LEGACY** With the Art of Small Agriculture

Philip Hyde lived in Plumas County 56 years beginning in 1948 when he took the summer off from Ansel Adam's new photography school in San Francisco and worked at Cheney Mill in Greenville. Hyde's work went on to show in major museums and galleries including the Smithsonian as he became known for his iconic 1960s and 1970s landscapes that campaigned to establish many US national parks and popularized the large coffee table photography book.

By the 1960s Hyde became friends with County Supervisor Bob Moon and with other community leaders founded the Plumas County Museum. Now fittingly, the museum will host the first show of David Leland Hyde's exhibition, "Agriculture West and Midwest: Visual Stories of a Fading Way of Life from 17 States with Special Emphasis on Plumas County," from September 7 through December 29, 2018.

Philip gave David, at age 10, a manual Pentax film camera and taught him the basics. The younger Hyde never made more than a few hundred images until 2009 when he bought a Nikon DSLR. Since then young Hyde has made over 80,000 images, more than one third depicting agricultural subjects.



Round Barn Near Conroy, Iowa • Photo by David Leland Hyde

Childhood memories of playing in a local barn, swinging on a rope into the hay, attracted Hyde to photograph old barns.

"At first I made photographs of historic barns because people liked them," Hyde said. "But having grown up around ranching and farming, I was interested in the people and their lives. I wanted to catch all phases of farming and ranching in action, especially the methods of the past that are now disappearing." While he traveled in the Midwest in the summer of 2015 in his dad's 1984 Ford converted van, a reporter told him the state of Minnesota alone loses more than 300 barns a year. In 1900 there were over thirty million American farmers, today fewer than five million. Many small agrarian communities across the US have turned into ghost

towns.

Hyde drove to a wedding in Michigan to take the time to feel the pulse of the country's heartland. He spent three months driving on back roads where he found fear and mistrust as well as kindness and friendliness. While running to catch the summer sunlight, he found dramatic colorful skies and storm clouds that sometimes turned white and drifted away across endless green waves of corn or golden soybean fields just before harvest.

"I photographed ruin, decay and tragedy," Hyde said. "But I also caught redemption, tranquility, tenacity, rebuilding and optimism. Moments of action stood out, but when it was absent I strove to observe pastoral, simple beauty in an unusual, mindful way different from



Mt. Hough, Indian Valley • Photo by David Leland Hyde

much photography today and more like the quiet way Dad did it with his large format film camera.” In contrast, back home in the mountains of California some of the best action happens at calf brandings. In the West it has become common to use chutes to hold calves still for branding, but Hyde photographed local ranchers this year in Indian Valley who still do it the old way, roping and rustling the calves by hand.

Another example of

traditional agriculture, the iconic Olsen Barn in Chester at the edge of the native Maidu’s Big Meadows on the shore of Lake Almanor. Feather River Land Trust recently began restoring and stabilizing the base and foundation of the barn that pioneered dairy farming in the area to keep it from collapsing under heavy snow or wind. Hyde’s photographs of the historically significant barn helped in fundraising for the project. However, many old farm structures no longer get

enough use to justify the high costs of maintaining them. Hyde hopes his work can bring awareness and funding for historical restoration efforts. Additional shows of his agricultural photographs and a book are planned.

“We are excited to have a fund-raising exhibition,” said museum director Scott Lawson. “It is noteworthy that David’s work will be displayed near his father’s 40x50 darkroom prints which have graced our walls since 1969.” Hyde plans to donate to the museum half of all proceeds from the sale of his fine art prints and other collectibles. Please enjoy the show and support the museum and the artist. The first 50 people to arrive at the opening will receive a keepsake gift.

DETAILS

Opening Reception: First Friday, September 7, 5-7 pm with Artist’s Talk: 6 pm

Exhibition: September 7 through December 29, 2018

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Individual Membership \$25.00 - Family \$35.00 - Patron \$100.00 - Sustaining \$1000.00 - Corporate \$150.00 Please mail your check to **Plumas County Museum, 500 Jackson Street, Quincy, CA 95971** or pay online at the Museum e-store: www.plumasmuseum.org.

Hours: Tue-Sat • 10:00 - 4:00

Closed Monday & Holidays

Call (530) 283-6320 to confirm.