



# The Saddlebag

Volume 30 #5 May 2008

The Kern River Valley Historical Society

---

## Calendar of Events

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 11am.....Sageland Plaque Ceremony

May 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> .....History Days at the Museum (See Separate Schedule)

May 20<sup>th</sup> .....Basque History and Luncheon Tour (Leave Senior Center a 11am)

May 24<sup>th</sup>.....Havilah Days

May 27<sup>th</sup> 9am.....Board Meeting at St Peters Church Parish Hall, Kernville

May 27<sup>th</sup>, 7pm.....General Meeting at Senior Center (Scholarship Awards)

\*\*\*\*\*

**May Meeting 7pm Tuesday May 27<sup>th</sup> Coordinator Vicki Middleworth,**

**Hosts: Cassie Wingender Jim Malouf, and Bob Dreiling**

The Annual Essay Contest for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be our program for May 27<sup>th</sup>. The contest was expanded to include the 4<sup>th</sup> grade this year. The judges were Cassie Wingender, Jim Malouf, and Bob Dreiling. Kernville Elementary and Woodrow Wallace are the schools represented. There will be selected speakers from the winners and displays of the student works. This is always an inspiring program and is a joy to watch. Mark your calendars for this once a year event. The kids are always great!!

\*\*\*\*\*

The Sageland Townsite Plaque Dedication will take place at 11am on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Once a thriving mining community, Sageland is now abandoned and only a partial granite monument is there to show its location. In 1967 the Bakersfield Historical Society placed this now defaced monument in its present location. 40 years later the Kern River Valley Historical Society in conjunction with the Peter Lebec Chapter of E Clampus Vitus will be placing a new monument on the original base at the Sageland location. We are all invited and asked to bring our chairs, water and perhaps a camera. The site is located 17 miles from Hwy 178, up Kelso Valley road near the turnoff of Harris Grade Rd. (on the right side.) Try to be there, it's a part of our Valley Heritage.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Some words on History Days...**Look what we have for you! This year we have added some terrific events and demonstrations to be held at the Kernville Museum. Besides our costume contest we have added the pie baking contest for Sunday in conjunction with a concert from 'Out of the Blue'. Registration forms are due by 11 am at the Country Store. We will have the Doc Holliday drawing on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>, and a screening of Chuck Barbee's talked about film on one of the Bob Powers Books. We have added tours of the historical Walker House as well as a presentation from Ali Sheehy of the Nature Preserve, a demonstration on working with rawhide. We also have added wonderful local performer, Archie Logsdon. All of this together with the return of our usuals proves to provide a most magnificent History Days. A full schedule of events is included in this month's Saddlebag. Those of you who signed up to bring cookies please bring

(cont) *them to the museum on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> or early on Friday May 16<sup>th</sup>.* No freezing them this year . We are looking forward to seeing you all, bring your friends and neighbors.

\*\*\*\*\*

**May 20<sup>th</sup> Field Trip Liz Bardos is Field Trip Chairman and Dan Morrison and Jacqueline Morgan are hosts for this outing**

**On this Tour, Basque Cuisine and History will be explored.** The Basque people have made significant contributions to the Kern River Area not the least of which is their local cuisine. On the May 20th field trip, be prepared for lessons on Basque cooking, Basque history and most especially a Basque meal in Bakersfield. All this takes place at Sandrini’s (Yes Sandrini sounds Italian). One owner descends from Italy and the other from France and Spain. The restaurant features, Top rated Basque food, (4 stars from the Californian) 100 varieties of beer, a wine list and open bar, the only underground restaurant in Bakersfield. (Yes you will have to negotiate a few stairs.) They are famous for their lamb dishes, and to top it all they have a friendly owner and staff. At 12:45 the owner plans a demonstration on Basque food, which includes some surprising information. A member of the Bakersfield Basque Club will provide a talk on the past and present of descendants of the Basque who pioneered this area. At 1:30 be prepared for a truly Basque Luncheon, one that would be served in the old country on a festive occasion. We will be served, an appetizer of marinated tomatoes, pinto beans and salsa. Our second course will be Lamb Stew and our main course will be ½ Lrouleguy Chicken (Chicken in Basque Sauce) and Fried Garlic Potatoes. **The price is \$15.00 each including tax and gratuity. The Dining room only holds 35 so call Liz Bardos for reservations right away. Checks should be made out to the KRV Historical Society and received by May 13<sup>th</sup> .Liz will tell you where to send it.** Meet at the *Senior Center* on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 for directions, map and carpooling. The Caravan leaves the Senior Center promptly at 11 am for Sandrini’s Restaurant, 1918 Eye Street in Bakersfield.

\*\*\*\*\*

**This months Spotlight** is on *Dick Snyder*. I can safely say that in my 17 years with the museum we have never had a more loyal all round keeper of the Museum. He opens, he closes, he picks up mail, he fills in when docents don’t show, he sweeps, he checks, he worries, he asks, he paints, he helps, he is an all round handyman and genuine good guy. Dick our hats are off to you!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunshine Report**

**Chairman Juanita Kitchell**

Get Well cards were sent to: *Glenda Welborg, Jim Whiteman, Joyce Easton, Adeline Malone, and Pauline Braswell.* A Sympathy Card was sent to *The Family of Don Legg*

If you hear of an illness or loss in a members family, call Juanita.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Don Legg better known as ‘Dufus’** passed away a few days ago and our hearts go out to his family. As a Docent, Don was a welcome and colorful part of a visit to the Historical Society Museum. Always in costume as ‘Dufus the Salty old Miner’ he delighted children and adults alike. With his knowledge of the old west, its pioneers and his ability to respond to his audience, he would make a visit to the museum an event. We shall miss him..

A note from Diane Bach says that she wished to thank the all members who attended the service and brought food. She added that special thanks should go to Liz Bardos, Tom McKinny and Ron Bach for their help in making this memorial service a “Celebration of life”....

**Dues are due and you know who.** There are still a few who have not sent in their renewal. Stay with us, your membership is what makes our Society strong and viable. We need you!!

**May Art Gallery Presentation.....Joan Montano-Grant, Artist of the Month**

A 4<sup>th</sup> generation Californian, Joan has had demonstrations and exhibits in Southern California, England, Fairoaks and Mexico. Her forte is pastel, oil, and sculpture Portrature. She was a scholarship student for 6 years with the Christian Von Schniedau School of Fine Arts. Joan also was a Signal Corp staff artist in San Luis Obispo. Her portfolio contains countless awards and ribbons. She created the sculpture on the Bob Powers plaque located in front of the museum. This year at History Days she will sketching on the front porch of the museum. Look for her!

**The Survivor Workshops are continuing.** These workshops are about the practicality of what to do if one or both of you pass away. Or if you are a single person, what your survivors need, to set your affairs in order. If you are interested in attending a workshop call Pat Bass or Liz Bardos. The scheduling will depend on the number of interested callers. Cost is \$5.00 to cover the expense of notebooks and information pages.

**There are only a few days left** to get your Doc Holliday picture tickets. They can be obtained at the Museum Thursday thru Sunday from 10 to 4. The drawing will be on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Better Hurry!

**Membership** **Shirley Fisher Membership Chairperson**

We would like to welcome the following new members. Joe and Betty Ghiglia of Northridge, Joe Porter of Bakersfield, Pam and Brian Hermansauer of Lake Forest, Jennie Hanley of Kernville, Tom and Kelly Wright and Family of Lake Isabella, Deepak and Patricia Moitra of Lake Isabella Mike and Diane Moss and Eron and Jocelyn Lykins of Bodfish and Donna Bundy of Lake Isabella. A pick and shovel plaque was also purchased by the Moitras along with their membership. A special thanks to them. Now that you all are members, be sure to read the Saddlebag for information on tours, programs and special events. This is your museum, enjoy it and all that we offer. Again welcome to the Kern River Valley Historical Society.

**Docents (museum guides) Needed!!** **Jeri Hansen Staffing Director**

If you like to have fun, consider joining us as a docent. Don your western duds, (blue jeans, cowboy shirts, boots, long dresses, etc) Have a great time for a few hours a month. People really get a kick out of seeing us in western gear. Be a regular or a substitute. I'm sure we can find a space that's right for you! Call Jeri Hansen. I'll work with you to find just the right spot.

**Path of History** **Vicki Middleworth Chairman**

By the time this edition makes it to your mailbox we will have added another pad of bricks to the front yard of our Musuem. Space is filling fast. Over 378 folks have had their names and messages lasered in brick. Stop by and walk the path, see the names and messages. If you want your wording lasered into a large or small brick, call Vicki for an order blank. Or pick one up at the Museum, then pick your words and return your application to: Vicki Middleworth P.O. Box 3783 Wofford Hts Ca. 93285 along with a check for \$75.00 or \$100.00 depending on brick size There is still time to get a front yard placement. Better call today!!

\*\*\*\*\*

**The April Program** hosted by Eleanor Campbell was excellent. The speaker Charlie Hattendorf besieged by technical problems which made screening his pictures impossible, nevertheless gave us a great word picture of the history of Last Chance Canyon. From the depths of the pumice mines, to Burro Schmidts home, to Bickel canyon he kept us interested and chomping to visit the area. It is amazing how he and others keep the area heritage alive. Charlie has a website which gives more information on tours and areas to explore. Here it is: [www.bickelcamp.org](http://www.bickelcamp.org) or [www.tflcc.org](http://www.tflcc.org) Give them a try. At any rate the program turned out well and we as group will try to have a tour in the early part of next year. Thanks Eleanor for a great program...

\*\*\*\*\*

**The April Tour to the Tehachapi** loop hosted by Bill Trotts consisted of 8 cars and 22 brave souls. It was cold and windy. They stopped at the Lucy Lightner's grave marker and at Robbers Roost. Saw a mile long train on the loop pulled by 4 engines. Jerry Ridgman, provided color comments and told of his rides on trains going thru the loop. 18 members made it to Kelly's in Tehachapi for lunch. They all found out that it was the home of 106 omelets not 160 as believed. Glad we got that straight.

**As to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Keyesville tour**, it went well, we had 47 members who made the tour and 13 who made the arduous trip to the Keyes mine and back. The hospitality of the Tom and Debbie Teofilo of the Lodge at Painted Rock was great and they made us proud to have them as a neighbor and of their interest in keeping the heritage of the Keyesville area intact. We only saw 2 itty bitty snakes and no one fell down a mine shaft. It was a fun and successful tour

\*\*\*\*\*

**Welcome back to El Presidente Ron Bolyard.** Fresh from heart surgery he ran the board meeting and was present at our Tuesday night General meeting. This is a heads up to members that would like to go to the meeting but you just don't. If a guy fresh from heart surgery can make it, couldn't you?? I'll bet you can! Our meetings are always on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7 pm. See ya!!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Book Report Dutch Oven Cooking** by Tony Cano. If you are into dutch oven cooking you will find this a valuable and interesting book on the art of cooking great dutch oven meals. If you don't cook outside with charcoal, and opt for the comfort of an inside oven then it also has the conversion for cooking inside. There are a number of pages that teach you the art of D.O. cooking and then it goes into almost 200 great and easy recipes. Here are just a couple of samples...Peach Cobbler, Rum Cake, Lemon Nut Bread, Potato Zucchini Bake, Cheese Biscuits, Bread Pudding, Burger Surprise, Pot Roast Ranchero. I've already tried the cobbler, and the Beef Stew. They were yum and yum. Along with the recipes there are some great poems and sayings that will give you a chuckle. The recipes tell you what size oven to use and what temperature to use if you cook in your inside oven. The recipes are foolproof. I know because if I can do them with out ruining or burning, anyone can. So if you like to cook and like to eat, I recommend this cookbook as a key one to have on your cookbook shelf. It's a piddling \$14.95 and can be found in our Museum bookshelves. And hey if you don't like it, there are a half a dozen other books all on D. O. Cooking. And they are all good. I know because I have everyone of them on my Dutch Oven Bookcase of cooking goodies. Come on by our Museum Country Store and browse a while. You're sure to find something that strikes your fancy..Remember there will be Dutch Oven Cooking on History Days in the Musuem back yard. A chance to see and try.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Havilah Days Asks for Help.** This is a press release from the Havilah Days committee. “The annual Havilah Days takes place Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. Because we have virtually NO volunteers, we are reluctantly planning to cancel Havilah Days if we can’t find some support. We’re asking the Kern River Valley Historical Society for their help in pulling it off. We need folks to help with food serving, taking tickets, making change, and staffing the Courthouse and Schoolhouse for visitors. Hours are from 9 AM to 3 PM (although it usually winds down much sooner.) Please call us if you are willing to help spend a fun day with a bunch of wonderful folks, would you? Please call Wes or Janet Kutzner at 379-2636. Now, do you have a special collection or hobby? Share it with the community at Havilah Days! Vendors with merchandise to sell and those wishing to display their hobbies are admitted at no charge. We have a few tables for use, but once they’re taken you’ll need to bring your own table or blanket, as you wish. Call Jason Houston to reserve your spot.

*A note from your editor. If you have the time, this is a worthwhile way to help a neighboring museum and history celebration. It should be a lot of fun and a meaningful way to spend a day.. But if you can’t work, take the time to stop by and see what’s there and what’s going on.*