



# The Saddlebag

Volume 30 #9      September 2008  
The Kern River Valley Historical Society

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**SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> FIELD TRIP TO CALIFORNIA HOT SPRINGS.** Organized by Don Morrison and Jacqueline Morgan

*Meet at the Museum at 8:45 am Tuesday September 16<sup>th</sup> to organize carpooling and to get directions. Depart promptly at 9:00 am so we can arrive at California Hot Springs by 10:30 to tour the facility and /or shop. The program starts at 11:00 and includes a brief history of the Yokut Native Americans who thrived in the region and made use of the hot springs. There will be a slide presentation on the resort that developed after Euro-Americans came to the area in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A wonderful buffet lunch follows the presentations and then you have a chance to swim and /or soak in the various pools which vary from warm to hot. You might also enjoy walks around the area or on your way home. **The sign up for this trip started last month and now reservations must be in by September 8<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$9.00 each for the lunch or \$15.00 each, for lunch and swim/soak in the Hot Springs. Make your check out to the KRV Historical Society and send it to Liz Bardos P.O. Box 266 Kernville Ca. 93238 and call her at 376-3844. Make sure your call and check get to her by September 8<sup>th</sup>, that is the cutoff date. The Society will send one check to the Hot Springs.** This is a great trip and one you won't want to miss.*

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**SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> GENERAL MEETING..**7pm Tuesday Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>, Veterans Hall, Lake Isabella... Program Coordinator: Vicki Middleworth (376-6039)

Have you ever wondered about the history of Camp Owens?. What its goals are for the young men who are sent there? Did you ever wonder what the qualifications are for being sent there? How about the programs offered?. Well these questions and many more will be answered when our guest speaker **Ken Durant** retired Superintendent of Camp Owens meets with us on Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>. I think you will find this not only an interesting but a compelling program for troubled young men who are counseled here at Camp Owens

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## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**September 16<sup>th</sup>.....** Tour to California Hot Springs Meet at Museum at 8:45 and leave 9:00 am

**September 20<sup>th</sup>.....** Valley Pride Day Cleanup..Meet at Kernville Chamber Office at 8:00 am

**September 23<sup>rd</sup>.....**Board Meeting St Peters Anglican Church at 9 am

**September 23<sup>rd</sup>....** General Meeting 7pm at Senior Center Ken Durant Speaker

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**The stubs of the tickets** you received last month are starting to come in along with supporting dollars which help keep our Museum running. This is the only fund drive we have each year and it is heartwarming to see the generosity of our members as the envelopes are returned.

Remember the tickets are a chance for a beautiful quilt, some cash and other goodies, and you are supporting our Historical Society in its quest to preserve and protect the history of our valley.

**THIS AND THAT.....**

**Valley Pride Day will be held on September 20<sup>th</sup>**. As usual the Kern Valley Historical Society will join in with clubs and organizations throughout the Kern River Valley. That Saturday morning will be spent by folks cleaning up our valley by picking up trash on most public areas and along roads, parks, parking areas and any place that trash can be located. Pickup is usually over by 11, trash is delivered to the parking area next to the Indian Culture Center and then a luncheon will be served at the French Gulch Group Campsite. T Shirts will be given out to all participants. The Historical Society cleans up the roadsides stretching from the Kernville Chamber of Commerce to the turnoff to the dump and landfill. Approximately 3 miles. Each worker cleans a small section. We need 20 volunteers. If you can help, call Vicki at 376-6039 before September 17<sup>th</sup>. We now have the easy trigger pickup tool for each person and we will pass out safety vests to all participants. If you've done this before, welcome back, if you are new, be prepared for a fun morning and a great lunch.

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**Notes on the August Field Trip...**A good sized group of members met at the St Peters Anglican Church last month. There our president Ron Bolyard presented the second part of his two part slide show where he discussed the westward movement of the emigrants crossing the barren western United States, via the Oregon Trail in 1843. Using slides and handouts he was able to show members the rigors and hardships that emigrants were forced to face from Wyoming to the Willamette Valley in Oregon. For years Ron has studied by personal research, travels and experiences while a geologist with Superior Oil on the westward travels of these early settlers. It was unanimous by the attendees that this was indeed a story well told, based in fact and a real revelation on the people that made those historic trips from Missouri to Oregon on the Oregon trail. Thanks Ron for this most interesting look into our past....

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**The August General Meeting and Potluck was an Aloha Hoot!!** Chaired and orchestrated by Diane Bach and done in a Hawaiian motif this potluck was a rousing success. Almost everyone heeded the plea to wear Hawaiian garb. Members were given leis and after a great potluck were entertained by the Ladies of the Elks Hula Dancers. Group and individual dancing was done by the Hawaiian entertainers to the melody of enchanting Hawaiian music. They were great!! It was a grand evening and to those of you who missed it, the food was fabulous, the atmosphere was hawaiian, table decorations were of palm trees and at the drinks table was large palmtree and ice enclosure for drinks and ice for the ice tea. Diane offered thanks to all her helpers, Ron Bach, the Langers, the Middleworths, the Otts, Ron Bolyard and Anne Litz and anyone else your editor missed.

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**Our September Artist is Edith Bradley** who has lived in the Kern River Valley for over 20 years and has been a member of the Kern Valley Art Assn. all during that time. She has displayed her work in many shows in the valley and other locations throughout California. She paints mostly florals and landscapes in oil. You are invited to come to Our Museum, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm and enjoy Edith's art. Its worth your time and a chance for us to say hello to ya'll

**Wanted...Badly...We are in Dire Need!!** Of a non engined, *push* type LAWNMOWER. It seems that the narrow strip of grass at the Walker House won't allow a large mower to go between the house and fence but a narrower push mower would work 'swell'. Any one got one to give or sell cheap?? If so call past prez Charles Topping caretaker at the Walker House at 376-1907, he will be delighted to hear from you. Director Ron Bach and Charles have been assessing the needs of the Walker House to bring it to the readiness that it was originally intended. A place to meet, a place to study, with a bathroom that works, rugs that are laid properly and a host of other things that Charles will find as he roams the premises. Between Charles and Ron things are going to get done...look out.. Great work guys we are proud of you!!!...

**Gene Verbeet on his own**, designed a 2009 calendar containing historical pictures gleaned from the collections of Chuck Barbee and Marge Powers which illustrate the months. He presented a copy of the Calendar and costs to print. As a result these beautiful calendars will be available in the Country Store in the next month or so. They will make perfect Christmas gifts and are a real tribute to the Kern River Valley. Thanks for your efforts Gene, it's most appreciated.

**No Outdoor Movies for a while....**At least until the new cover over the outdoor theater is complete. A couple of glitches have arisen, are being solved and work continues.

**Included in this months Saddlebag** is a brochure that was developed as a result of a grant engineered by *Linda Diaz*. They are designed for handouts to outside shows, Chambers of Commerce and places that could advertise our Museum Take some time to look it over and see if you don't agree that this is indeed a beautiful brochure and invitation to come see our museum

**Report From Chuck Barbee..** Chuck gave us a brief report on the success of the Fox Movie presentation on the move of the Hill House and his film 'Wild West Country'. Attendance was close to 1000 with a great number of attendees from the Kern River Valley. There was activity outside the theater which was enjoyed by all and according to Chuck the films were well received. It was estimated that about \$10,000 was raised for the move of the Hill House to the Kern County Museum. It was apparent that many of those present found out that there was indeed a Kern River Valley and that it was rich in history. (Thanks Chuck for your work!!)

**Spotlight of the month is on Virginia Snyder, Recording Secretary.** It is only right that we highlight this woman for the excellent job she does month in and month out. It is no easy task to record the doings of the board of directors at the meeting, and even more difficult to separate the issues that come up, are acted on and many tabled. Each of her reports received monthly of last months meeting is accurate, contains the flavor of the meetings and is a valuable part of the history of our organization and its meetings. To do this with no fanfare, no attaboys, almost no recognition is not fair, especially in a job this important. So Virginia, our hats are off to you and the work that you do...Our heartfelt thanks. You go girl!!

**One Last Word on Bricks.** Another order is being typed to order bricks for the Path of History. Have you got that brick you've been meaning to buy? If not call Vicki at 376-6039