



The Saddlebag

Volume 31 #4 April 2009
The Kern River Valley Historical Society

Calendar of Events

April 21st*Field Trip..Walker House Library Tour and Dutch Oven Lunch*

April 23rd*Movies Under the New Roof!! 8pm*

April 24th*Judging for Kernville Fourth Grade Essay Contest*

April 28th*General Meeting, Tom McKinney speaking on "The One That Got Away"*

May 15th 16th 17th ...*History Days*

Our Field Trip is on for Tuesday April 21st. According to Charles Topping The Walker Library Lecture and Dutch Oven Lunch is on again for April 21st. We canceled our date in February, when the weather took over, giving us rain and mud that day. The cook crew would have been outdoors for hours tending cast iron pots in wind and weather. The house is too small to seat everyone indoors for lunch, so tables and chairs would have been around the yard, making everyone miserable, and unable to enjoy the good eats. Because 40 scholars signed up for the day and because an intimate, effective discourse on the merits of Ardis's writing would have difficult in the confines of the small rooms, a new plan will be implemented.. There will be two lectures, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. (Both the same), with lunch in the middle for both groups. (Those finishing the morning session, and those arriving for the afternoon session) Pretty clever huh?. We were surprised there would be so many academically inclined participants, clamoring for haiku and sonnets...or was it the lunch?? The morning session will be from 10am to Noon. Then lunch. The afternoon session will be 1:30 pm to 3:30pm. The after noon participants should arrive at noon for lunch. Cost is \$6.50 payable when you arrive. We suggest you bring your own service, chairs and maybe a small foldable table....Call Charles at to let him know you're coming and for choice of morning or afternoon lecture. If you leave a message, include your phone number so we can contact you for weather or other important items that might arise

Our General Meeting this month (Tuesday April 28th) according to *Vicki Middleworth Program Chairman* will feature one of our own. *Tom McKinney* who will be letting us in on how the huge Trout Derby recently enjoyed, is run. How the fish are gathered, and how they are released. The security that surrounds the picking and releasing of the \$10,000.00 fish will be revealed and Tom will let you know just how widespread news of our Derby is.. If you are a fisherperson, maybe you can get some of your questions answered. This will be a real barn burner and you won't want to miss a single moment of this program. Mark your calendar in bold marker and plan to set this evening aside as we present Mr Fisherman... Tom McKinney

History Days May 15th 16th and 17th is getting close says coordinator Peg Greenberg. Here's an update. We will have another costume and pie baking contest this year..watch for baking contest entry forms. Docent and cookie baking sign-up sheets will be available in the Country store on April 3rd. We also have something new for docents this year. We're going to give every docent a specific area (i.e. Mining Display, Indian Display, Back room) so that they can tell our visitors something about the items they are looking at. So when you register for docent, please also let us know if you have a preferred area. (cont. page 2)

(History Days Cont)....We 'll also continue the *Mine* tour and the *Walker House* tour and may add a tour of '*Old Kernville*'. (Now that the lake is gone we can see it!!). WE NEED ASSAYERS. We're anxious to have the Assay Office open and running this year so, if you want to learn how to assay and if you're willing to work during History Days, please contact *Rick Brown*. Our entertainment is filling up nicely...lots of great music and presentations. Next planning meeting is scheduled for April 14th 9am at the Museum. Lots more to come!!!!

According to Bill Jenkins, 165 folks signed up and completed his Survivor Book class. Bill reminds us that now would be a good time to update the book pages. Even consolidate a few of them. He also reminds us that as our grip on the perch gets looser, it is even more important to be up to date on our Survivor Book. And be sure your survivor knows where the book is located says Bill...

Welcome New Members: *Mike and Pamm Vuoso*. *Melody Lindley*, *Gary Givet*, *James Muhollan*, *Michael D. Neilson*, *Teri Jo Kumar*. *Brenda Hiddy*, and *Archie Logdon*. The Museum is yours, and you are a part of and invited to all the outings, meetings, potlucks and tours that we have. They are there for you and we want to meet you and welcome you all to our world!!

Sunshine Report from Juanita Kitchell.Get well cards were sent to *Glenn Smith*, and *Joyce Easton* and a sympathy card to *Bill Nolte* for the loss of his wife *Donina*. A memorial contribution was received from *Jim and Eleanor Campbell* for *June Juge* and *Chuck Diffine*

Curators Report from Curator Butch Partin Beginning the first of May I am going to re-start the display of personal collections of Society members. They will still be located in the back meeting room in the glass case. It is lit and an ideal place to show almost any kind of collection which would be on display for a month or so. The first display will be that of Sally Partin starting May 1st of mystery content. This will be a way for members of the Society to participate in the museum. If anyone is interested in showing their collections, please contact me at or call the museum at 376-6683 and we'll get you on our list. Lets see if we can have some strong participation. We know there a lot of great collections out there. I am usually in the Museum on Thursdays if you want to talk with me about your possible display.

Art Room Report by Jane Causey , coordinator. *Carollee Tucker* is the Artist of the month in the museum gallery for *April*. She has been painting for many years. She started with casein, then oil and acrylic before she settled for watercolor. Her art education has come from various instructors and seminars. She feels fortunate to be able to spend winters in the *Kern River Valley* painting with the *Thursday Painters*. Summers are spent in *Charleston, Oregon* where she paints with plein air groups twice each week, explaining why many of *Carollee's* paintings are of the *Oregon Coastline*. Our museum is open from 10am to 4pm from Thursday through Sunday. Come by, visit the art gallery and see the good works of *Carollee Tucker*.

Have you returned your renewal form? Its getting past time to do so. In fact starting next month if your dues aren't paid you won't get this great, newsy, up to date Saddlebag. Send it in now!!!

Movie Under the Roof... On Thursday April 23rd at 8pm we will have our first movie under the Roof. (We can't see the stars now so some adjustment in title was made) it will be a western of some kind and there will be cheep popcorn and sodas available. *Jim Whiteman* will be there for the technical part of operating the digital projector and *Dick Snyder* will apply his expertise in popping the corn and making salient remarks. Come in through the gate in the alley, find a seat, grab some popcorn, and settle down for excitement and frivolity Consider bringing a *soft cushion for your tush...*You'll need it!!

This and That...Our tour to *Pioneer Village* was attended by thirty of our members who got up early and made the long trip down to Bakersfield. It was really exciting to see the *Lopez Hill house* right there on the main intersection of the village. We are happy to report that the restoration of the *Lopez Hill house* is showing great progress. Turns out that the trip was worth more than the drive. We were guided on our tour by two very personable and well informed docents. The weather was perfect and our experience there was top notch. We will have to go back again and see the *Lopez Hill house* fully restored.

The program for the General meeting on Tuesday the 24th was given by *Ron and Carol Wermuth*. *Carol* gave an outstanding talk on natural plants and their medicinal benefits. She has made medicinal lotions for a host of medical problems suffered by many folks. Check her out at the farmers market at the Indian Culture Center. Especially if you have Arthritis!! Following *Carol* was her husband *Ron*, who gave us a soul searching reason for a sweatlodge, its meaning, the ritual and what to expect if you are lucky enough to attend one. Sometimes a program really hits the spot and this one certainly did. I wish you all could have been there it was outstanding.

Its Here!!! The movie made here in our valley called *Wild West Country*. Filmed and directed by *Chuck Barbee*, it contains one of the stories from *Bob Powers* nine books. Many of the actors were Society members. To get your copy they are now on sale in our *Museum Country Store* for a piddling \$24.95. So open up your wallet, let the moths go free and get this great DVD for your library.

A New Historical Society Board Member. Welcome to *Linda Kubisaik*, who has agreed to fill out the vacancy made when *Eleanor Campbell* was forced to resign due to pressing personal duties. We will miss you *Eleanor* and your presence at our board meetings. First we had to get used to you not editing the *Saddlebag*, and now we have to do the same with our board meetings. You will be missed!!At any event we are pleased to have *Linda* who is a docent and aware of what it takes to make our board meaningful. Welcome *Linda*!!

According to Bob Woods. Volunteers are still needed for the 4th and 5th grade biographical essay judging to be held in April and May. The first judging will be on April 1st and 3 others will follow in the next few weeks. We sponsor this contest and our participation is critical. So give Bob a call and offer your help. You'll be glad you did.

Special Bulletin from Alexis Woods chairman of the 'Kern River Cookin' cookbook. The printing is done and the books are to be shipped in the next couple of weeks. Check in the Country Store around mid April and they should be there. Yum!!!!.....