



The Saddlebag

Volume 31 #2 February 2009
The Kern River Valley Historical Society

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February All Month.....Return your Membership Renewal for 2009

February 10thFirst Meeting of the History Days Committee 9am at the Museum

February 17th10 am Walker House in depth tour and Dutch Oven Luncheon. (\$5.00)

February 24th9 am Board Meeting at St Peters Anglican Church in Kernville

February 24th ...7pm General Meeting, Senior Center, Reid Hopkins and his drug sniffing dog

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t's membership renewal time. All members received renewal forms in the December Saddlebag. Many have been returned, but not all. Was yours one of them? Much of the budget that keeps our doors open comes from our annual renewals. Your participation as a member assures us of meeting our goal of Preserving the History of our Valley. Please send yours today.

Walker House Library and Art, Field Trip..10 am February 17th..Immediate Past President Charles Topping tour director for February's short jaunt tells us this: "Usually on a visit to the Walker House, we talk about Ardis and Gayles' personal history with just a look around. For this tour we'll be much more specific, and look at what makes the contents of this house unique. The library contains 7,000 books, all related to Ardis' interest in poetry and Western American history. On the walls, each piece of art work had a personal relationship to the Walkers. The emphasis for the tour will be to learn the system of category organization in the bookcases. We'll take books off the shelf and learn what made them so interesting to Ardis and Gayle. The Historical Society was made the caretaker of these treasured personal resources and this will be the first time we have taken a close academic look at what is really there. Reading some passages from Ardis' books will give us insight to his writing style and why he is a well known author. For some folks this day will be an exciting adventure....for others a comfortable snooze.

We'll meet at the Walker House at 10 am to discover the extent of the library. At lunch time we'll have a Dutch Oven Meal cooked on the patio for \$5.00 a person. Continuing into the afternoon, we'll discuss the art work and awards hanging on the walls which further accentuates the Walkers' interests and value to our valley's history. *Please call Charles at 376-1907* for directions and a head count for the Dutch Oven 'Yum' dinner...Mark your calendar. Reservation cutoff will be February 13th. So call Charles while the iron is hot...and your memory is in gear..

The General Meeting is on February 24th at 7pm and will be hosted by Chet Rock (378-4053) who has arranged another stellar program. His guest, Mr Reid Hopkins has volunteered to present his drug sensing, protective canine with a demonstration of the dogs ability to serve and protect. If you are interested in learning more about this very intelligent canine, how he was acquired, where he received his training, and the dogs abilities, then you won't want to miss this fascinating evening. *Mark your calendar for Feb 24th at 7pm at the Senior Center in Isabella!!*

Our February Artist is Gordon Delano from Wofford Hts. He lived in Johnsondale during the nineteen forties While there he became interested in wood working and cut out a fretwork wall sconce by hand. He is interested in wild life, western life, Indians, and people in general. His works are displayed in several restaurants in the valley. He and his wife Bonnie are residents of Wofford Hts. He also participates in the Art Association shows in Circle Park in Kernville. So, take a few minutes, drop by our museum and view the handiwork of Gordon Delano. We are open Thursday through Sunday, 10 to 4pm. At 49 Big Blue next to the Kernville Post Office.

The Recipe Project is Alive and Kicking. With over 350 recipes, the committee is in the process of verifying ingredient amounts, spelling and duplications. This is going to be a great book that you will all be proud to be involved with. It is anticipated that our contact company will be going to press by mid February and we will have our books by History Days...Look for them.

The General Meeting on January 27th was if nothing else, *different*. Our speaker *John Fowler* who had agreed to show up at 6:30 so we could set up the digital projector did not show. Not by 7pm, nor by 8pm. Meanwhile we called his wife and she said he went to the Museum thinking the program was there. We told his wife if he called, for him to come to Isabella. In the meantime we called the Rupels in Kernville who jumped in their car, went to the Museum and found our speaker and sent him to the Senior Center. While waiting we heard stories from Vicki M, Tom M. Ron B, and singing from a host of warblers, had our refreshments when about 8:15 the speaker arrived. A super nice gentleman who was mortified at his mistake. But the wait was worthwhile. The program on Highway 395 was outstanding. Capturing the essence of the grandeur that surrounds 395 and its ancillary roads and communities was worth the wait. Of course we did not see the last 10 minutes of the DVD because of projector problems but heard from John, much of what we would have seen. Our thanks John Fowler for a fine program!!!

Special Dedication on Tap. As most of you know we have finished our outdoor Theater called *The Jenkins Packstation*. which is now complete with its new cover. As with anything of this importance we are planning a dedication which will be held on Saturday February 21st at 1 pm in the backyard of the Museum. There will be a short ceremony, and refreshments. Anyone who could bring cookies should call *Diane Bach* at 376-3963. We will supply the popcorn and liquid refreshments. See you on the 21st!! Put this on your calendar!!

Odds and Ends Winners of the Installation Dinner Drawings were Quilt..Dick Milburn, \$100.00..Pamela Hermansader Lowes \$150.00 Gift Card Alan Luken Congratulations to all.

This announcement will be repeated next month...On Tuesday March 17th our field trip is to the Kern County Museum and Pioneer Village in Bakersfield. We will have a docent led tour of Pioneer Village and can also take a self guided tour of The Museum. We will need to sign up because to qualify for the group rate of \$5.00 each and enjoy a docent led tour, we need 20 members present. To sign up call Linda Diaz at 376-1686 by Saturday March 14th.. We will meet at the Senior Center in Lake Isabella at 9am to form car pools. If you plan to go and just want to meet us at Pioneer Village please let us know when you sign up so we won't wait for you. This should be a fun morning and worthwhile even if you've been there before. Lots of new 'old' stuff

History Days Is Not Far Down The Road.!!! Here is a message from Coordinator Peg Greenberg: "Well it's time to start thinking about our annual History Day's celebration. Come and join the Committee and help us make this year another great History Day's Event!! We are ready to gather eager and reliable folks so if you're interested in being a part of the planning and wish to join in on the excitement, please come to our first meeting of the History day's Planning Committee on Tuesday, February 10th at 9am at the Museum. I do expect to see our regular members and if you can't make it please let me know. Peg."..

We Now Have Two Websites.. One for the Historical Society www.krvhistoricalsociety.org and one for the Museum www.kernvalleymuseum.org. Each carries its own information pertinent to either the Society or the Museum. Both are worth visiting, for current information and even pictures. Turn on your computer, and put both of these websites into your favorites column and then take a few minutes and visit your Historical Society at work...Our thanks to Webmaster Mike Ludiker and Webladies Linda Diaz and Liz Bardos. All hardworking cyber wizards!!

Come Into The Musuem and view the book that was put together by *Larry Holoquist* which follows the path taken as the Powers Peak project went from inception to the final dedication a few weeks ago. Thanks to Larry and his committee and Bill Jenkins for his insight, we have a mountain peak dedicated to Bob Powers, and a monument and plaques honoring the man who did so much for our valley. Well done Larry!! (The second of the two plaques is now installed)

New Members. Welcome to new members Jane Causey, Al Landry, Mary Terrill, Bruce Simpson, Anneke Koekkoek, (hope I got that right), and Robert Larson...Glad to have you with us and we invite you to our meetings and our activities and ask you to consider being a museum guide. If you are interested in guide work, call **Jeri Hansen, Docent Coordinator at 376-4923** The work is easy and the time is minimal. She'll show you what to do and when. Speaking of Jeri and the Museum Guides (docents) she is desperately looking for new folks. People are passing on, leaving the Valley or disappearing into the woodwork and she needs to fill a few spots. Call her today and say "Jeri, I hear you need some help, well here I am. What can I do?". With a happy grin on her face she will take you under her wing and presto you will soon be a full fledged docent (guide) with lots of help! Call her today and make her a happy coordinator!!

Sunshine Report. Chairperson *Juanita Kitchell* reports that Get well cards were sent to: Lois Olinger, Patsy Henry, Laura Oreskovich, Bob Ramsey, and Mike Zagon. Sympathy cards were sent to: The Wheaton Family, Pam Moeller and family, Elaine Booth, and Bob and Alexis Woods.

Memorials for Beverly Blackwood were received from: Glenna and Ted White, Vivian Hinesly, William G. Burlando, Ann Haney, Sherri and Sid Lambert, Susan and Murray Goldberg Barbara Lencioni, Lera Jane Causey, Jim and Eleanor Campbell and Ann Litz....

Important Stuff...*June Whities* has given notice that after 17 years she is going to step down as KRVHS treasurer at years end. Anyone out there interested?? Call her!!

Want a Badge for the meetings and as museum guides? Call Ann Haney at 376-6213, she will see that you get one!!