CSHS – A PARTNER IN EDUCATION

CSHS is entering into a partnership with the three local school districts to enhance the elementary and middle school educational programs in the subject areas of mathematics and science. The CSHS Board of Directors reviewed this project at their September 20 meeting and approved the partnership, authorizing the necessary fundraising.

A two hour meeting was held on September 8 at the Museum in order to discuss the best way to proceed. Principals and teachers from the Big Creek, Pine Ridge and Foothill Middle schools attended, along with representatives from CSHS and interested members from the community. By the end of the two hour meeting a basic outline of the program had been established.

In the first year the focus will be on sixth graders and the expected topic will be Energy. This topic is a major component of the sixth grade science studies and permits CSHS to assist the school districts teaching that material and integrating it with the mathematics subject.

During the 2013-14 academic year, sixth grade classes and their teachers will spend about one day per month at the museum site. While at the museum, students will be involved with working exhibits and getting hands-on experience with different power projects. All costs for student transportation, academic planning, and construction of exhibits and projects will be covered by CSHS. The school districts are not to bear any financial burden from this partnership.

It is expected that detailed academic planning by the teachers will take place during the summer of 2013. This will be coordinated with CSHS so exhibits and appropriate projects for the students can be developed.

(Continued on page 3)

Native American No-Bi Added to Museum Displays

The next time you visit the museum, you will see an exact replica of a No-Bi in our new Native American encampment. Lance Fink, a member of the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians graciously volunteered his time and expertise to construct the No-Bi on the grounds to the east of the Museum.

A No-Bi is a cedar bark dwelling used by many tribes for sleeping. Most tribes used the No-Bi only when out camping in the wilderness, but some migratory tribes used them on a regular basis. They can be assembled quickly, using materials that are easy to find, allowing the people to move without having to drag teepee poles.

The No-Bi on display at the Museum was built with saplings for framework and then covered with the cedar bark.

Also on display is a large Grinding Rock which was generously donated by Jean Kilpatrick, Keith Davis, and Vance Wiggins, owners of Cressman General Store. It was used to grind acorns and other seeds into meal.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>TIME, LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 30</td>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
<td>2:00 pm – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation</td>
<td>1:00-3:00 – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 26</td>
<td>Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00-3:00 – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 8</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation</td>
<td>1:00-3:00 – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>Pine Logging Camp Open House (details below)</td>
<td>10:00-2:00 – Pine Logging Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 22</td>
<td>Power House Dedication</td>
<td>4:00 pm – Museum Power House</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 22</td>
<td>Fundraiser Dinner (Tickets In Advance)</td>
<td>5:30 pm – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 28</td>
<td>Friday in the Pines</td>
<td>TBA – Museum Amphitheater</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 6</td>
<td>Pancake Breakfast</td>
<td>7:00-11:00 am – SL Commyt. Ctr.</td>
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<td>July 6</td>
<td>Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00-3:00 – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 13</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation</td>
<td>1:00-3:00 – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 21</td>
<td>Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00-3:00 – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 21</td>
<td>Ice Cream Social</td>
<td>2:00-4:00 - Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 26</td>
<td>Friday in the Pines</td>
<td>TBA – Museum Amphitheater</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 3</td>
<td>Black Pot Cook-off (Tickets In Advance)</td>
<td>TBA – Shaver Lake Fishing Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 10</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation</td>
<td>1:00-3:00 – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 17</td>
<td>Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00-3:00 – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 17</td>
<td>Big Creek Old Timer’s Picnic</td>
<td>TBA – Edison Campground)</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 23</td>
<td>Friday in the Pines</td>
<td>TBA – Museum Amphitheater</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00-3:00 – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation</td>
<td>1:00-3:00 – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 14</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation</td>
<td>1:00-3:00 – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 27</td>
<td>Friday in the Pines</td>
<td>TBA – Museum Amphitheater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation</td>
<td>1:00-3:00 – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00-3:00 – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 29&amp;30</td>
<td>Children’s Holiday Crafts</td>
<td>TBA - Museum</td>
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**OPEN HOUSE AT PINE LOGGING CAMP**

Save the date for an open house at the Pine Logging Camp, located on Dinkey Creek Road, on Saturday June 15, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. You will get a chance to view new interpretive signs installed in the buildings, the new USFS Fire Station, barracks, and heliport pads. Wildflowers should be in bloom throughout the area and meadows. More information will be provided in the spring newsletter.

**ARE YOU A MEMBER?**

Be a member!
Ask about all of our activities.
BE A DOCENT

Docent Training Program Shows you How

This summer saw the early stages of the development of a Docent Training Program. Interested folks have been meeting once a month during the summer to share ideas and information.

The most frequent concern has been “... but I don’t have enough knowledge to be a docent”. Actually, the most important things a docent can bring to the experience are an interest in history, an outgoing personality and the ability to be a good listener. Docents frequently say that they learn more from the visitors than they share themselves. Visitors to the museum tend to be enthusiastic and eager to share their own stories. If a question is really too tough to be answered on the spot, an offer to find the information and call or email the answer is the solution.

Ed Selleck has written and compiled a very comprehensive docent manual, which is available on line or as a hard copy.

There are as many opportunities as the imagination can supply. Whether your interest is specific to an area; like railroads, the donkey engine or the powerhouse, or if you would prefer to greet visitors to the museum with a wide range of queries, being a docent has much to offer volunteers.

If you are interested in exploring this exciting area of volunteerism, please join us at the museum on the 2nd Friday of the month at 9:00 AM. Meetings are held each month except January, February and March.

(CSHS Education Partnership, cont’d.)

The goal of this partnership is that the students will get some practical experience in the subjects of science, energy, mathematics and problem solving, enhancing the existing math and science programs at our local schools. This hopefully will increase their interest in these areas and they will learn about the interaction between these different fields.

If you are interested in participating in the project and/or making a contribution to the associated fundraising program, please contact John Mount at the Central Sierra Historical Society.

DON’T FORGET THE MUSEUM FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Holiday shopping is right around the corner. A great way to support the Historical Society is by giving your friends and loved ones a gift membership to the museum! Also, the museum gift shop offers a variety of books, oral histories, DVD’s, note cards and postcards, unique gifts, and clothing. We also sell items made by local artists.

The museum will be open Thursday-Sunday from 11:00 to 3:00 until December 16. Shop at the museum, and while you’re there make sure you check out all the new displays recently added.

From Lake Bottom to Museum Ceiling

When the museum reopens in the spring you will see sinker lumber from our very own Shaver Lake on the ceiling, thanks to Shaver Lake native Jeff Young, logger and CSHS Board Member. Watch for our spring newsletter which will detail this ongoing project.

SJ&E RAILROAD 100TH YEAR CELEBRATION AND CABOOSE #50 DEDICATION

On July 15, 2012 approximately 450 people enjoyed the festivities as the CSHS celebrated the 100th year of the SJ&E Railroad and the completion and dedication of the restoration project of Caboose No. 50. The Sierra Steamers were on hand throughout the day to fire up the Steam Donkey, and the Annual Ice Cream Social was held that afternoon. There were special activities for kids and tours of the caboose and powerhouse. Live music was performed by local musicians in the museum as people enjoyed the many exhibits.

The Caboose restoration project, led by Major Brooks Wilson, was initiated in September of 2004. This fall, volunteers, Bob Conry, Dave Nehring and Austin Lysight, built a beautiful snow shelter over the caboose, with assistance from Doug Koerper and his wonderful crew.

Thank you, guys!

ARE YOU A CSHS MEMBER? Membership sustains the Historical Society
NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

Members and Friends;
This has been an exceptionally busy and diverse year. Starting with the once-in-a-lifetime draining of Shaver Lake, we began an active season. We were able to stay open through January and then opened early due to the low winter snowfall. Our visitation was amazing, with a significant increase starting last winter.

We completed the Caboose #50 due to the efforts of many people both raising money and doing the actual work. We were very fortunate to have very talented workers and the Caboose shows that talent. If you have not yet seen it, it is a must!

We had the generation unit for the powerhouse delivered and it is now being assembled. It is a very complicated and intricate assembly, but once again we have very capable volunteers working on the project. Work nights are every Wednesday and help is always welcome.

The Sierra Steamers are, as always, very active and energetic. They are currently working on the “Peterson Donkey” that they retrieved last fall. They are also delivering this fall the steam sawmill donated by the Hayden family. This will be a long process to reconstruct.

We have initiated the formalizing of the Docent Program. While we have had many volunteers doing docent work over the years we now have an active group that meets once each month and learns about the many historical developments of our area.

I am pleased to be a part of this very successful organization. We are very active and can always do more. It seems sometimes that the possibilities are endless. We need more members to support these efforts and to demonstrate a healthy and active Society.

As you can easily see when reading this newsletter we are planning even more activities for next year. I can’t possibly thank every individual for their contributions. The list seems endless, as so many of you have graciously contributed time and money for the success of the Central Sierra Historical Society.

Thanks to everyone,
John R Mount, President, Board of Directors

SUMMER CHILDREN'S CRAFTS A SUCCESS

Last summer, children visiting the Museum had the opportunity to participate in two craft projects. Children strung beads and Native American icons to make necklaces. Another project was to introduce the children to the Rainbow Trout that were planted at Shaver Lake in the spring of 2012. For this, the kids glued multi-colored tissue and then cut out the shape of a fish. Parents and grandparents consistently praised the idea that they could visit the Museum exhibits while their children were engaged in challenging and fun activities.

Rod Wiens designed and built two attractive craft carts for storing and displaying the supplies.

Shirley Kepler and Judy Statler are already preparing activities for next year, to include the study of area birds and another Native American craft. So many children participated during the summer that we are asking for volunteers to supervise the activities, especially when special events take place, such as the Ice Cream Social during which approximately fifty children made necklaces and fish.

ORIGINAL SECTIONS OF SJ&E RAILS AVAILABLE AT THE MUSEUM

The Historical Society has been gifted with 40 pieces of original sections of the San Joaquin & Eastern Railroad rails. This is a rare opportunity for historians and collectors to own a piece of our local history. They are available for a $100 donation to CSHS. Call or visit the museum for more information.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

We hope you will remember the Society when you are planning your estate, or as a means of honoring a departed friend or loved one.

John Douglas Armstrong        John Washington Armstrong
Mimi Bashford                   Sharon Carlson
Barbara Gillett                 Helen Grossman
Duff Hopper                     Carl Lindstrom
Joy Anderson Smith             Kathleen Turtur

MEMBERSHIPS

You can support the Historical Society by giving your friends and loved ones a yearly membership to the Museum. It makes an excellent gift.
Call the Museum office for details.

From John & Dona Mount to Lance Fink
From John & Dona Mount to Walter Page
From John & Dona Mount to Carol Seabury
MUSEUM WISH LIST
In our last newsletter we posted a wish list, to see what sort of response we would get. Wow! Our readers came through for us! Thank you to Bud & Mary Spickler for the laminator, to Cheryl Frank at Ponderosa Telephone for two cases of copy paper, and to Kathy Haas for the case of copy paper. These are dollars, saved and we are very grateful.
Here is our current wish list if you would like to make a donation:
1. Solar Path Lights
2. Heavy Duty Stapler
3. Spiral Binding Machine
4. Copy Paper

ICE CREAM SOCIAL, 2012
“THANK YOU” to…
♦ 400+ Visitors
♦ Norm’s Shaver Lake Coffee & Deli
♦ v.e.s.t. Members
♦ 4H Members

… for making our Annual Ice Cream Social A GREAT success!!

A Special Thank You to
MOUNTAIN FLAME PROPANE
for all their support of the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum

ARE YOU A MEMBER?
MEMBERSHIP IS PERSONAL AND MAKES YOU A PART OF HISTORY & LEARNING

GENERATION PLANT EQUIPMENT ARRIVES FROM MILL CREEK HYDRO PLANTS
Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum is quickly approaching the completion of our Redinger Powerhouse No.1.

Southern California Edison Company owns and operates a number of small hydroelectric generating stations dating from the 1890s in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains. Upon learning of Edison’s intention to decommission some of these stations, Dr. Carver Mead successfully acquired Unit No. 1 from the Mill Creek Powerhouse No. 2 (MC2). Unit No. 1 is comprised of a Pelton Water Wheel, generator, control board and associated parts. This equipment was delivered to the Historical Society this past summer. It is currently being reassembled as a demonstration power plant, which we’ve named Redinger Powerhouse No.1. A dedicated group of people, led by Doug Koerper, share in the work at the plant.

Unit No. 1 is in its original 1904 configuration. This is a rarity, as almost no unit of that age has survived in its original condition. Ratings of the unit at the museum are 250 kilowatts, 480 volts, and 60 cycles per second. Water from an on-site reservoir is provided by a 250 horsepower, 480 volt submersible pump delivering 800 PSI, simulating a head of 630 feet. The pump was donated by Grundfos Pump Company.

It is anticipated our Redinger Powerhouse No. 1 will be completed and dedicated in the spring. Watch for more information in our Spring Newsletter and on our website.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT
CSHS is happy to announce that the museum will once again benefit from collaboration with an Eagle Scout Candidate. Chris Johncox is directing the development of a new exhibit that will be presented for viewing next year. This exhibit will address the identification of some of the most common varieties of trees to be found in the immediate vicinity of the museum. Chris and other members of his troop will spend the winter months researching and creating the exhibit.

This effort is an example of the support that CSHS offers to local youth in fulfillment of the society’s commitment to education and outreach.

Good luck planning the project, Chris!
WHAT EXACTLY IS AN IN-KIND DONATION TO A 501(c)(3)?

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) defines a 501(c)(3) organization as a charitable organization, “organized or operated for the benefit of private interests, and…restricted in how much political and legislative (lobbying) activities they may conduct”. The 501(c) portion means that certain corporations and trusts are tax exempt. The (3), according to the IRS, stands specifically for “organizations relating to religious, charitable, scientific, testing for public safety, literary, or educational purposes, or to foster national or international amateur sports competition…or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals”.

An in-kind donation is the value of a service or goods rendered to an organization by volunteers. For example, imagine a landscaping project using volunteers to help with planting a garden. If the volunteer is able to work for four hours and his time is valued at $10 per hour, his in-kind donation toward the project would be $40. He is not paid for his time, but the monetary value of his time is included in the project budget as an in-kind donation.

In-kind donations can also include equipment. If a volunteer brings in his skid loader to help move the soil into place, the value of his skid loader for that period of time can be put in the budget as an in-kind contribution. If the volunteer typically charges $100 per hour for the use of his skid loader, and the skid loader is used for four hours, a total of $400 can be put in the budget as an in-kind donation.

The Central Sierra Historical Society relies on membership dues, cash donations and grants to fund our projects. When applying for a grant, we must show that we are willing to put a certain percentage of our own money toward the project. This money can be in the form of cash or in-kind donations. The more in-kind contribution we are able to provide, the less cash we will need to pay toward the project. Also, the grant has a better chance of being funded because the project is backed by a high level of personal involvement by our volunteers.

To date, this year the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum has received in-kind donations of goods rendered close to $31,000. Volunteer hours continue to add up and there will be an accurate account in the spring 2013 newsletter. Because we are a volunteer organization we are always in need of volunteers. No experience is necessary and we can guarantee you that you will have fun, not to mention your sense of self-pride that you are doing your part to carry out our mission in preserving the region’s history.

ACQUISITIONS: Objects donated are to go through the Museum’s Acquisition Committee. The Committee is responsible for following appropriate procedures for the proper storage, insurance and maintenance of the object acquired. If you have an object that you feel would be appropriate for the Historical Society please contact the office for the proper form. We require that the form is completed and a photograph of the object is attached to the form. After consideration by the Committee, a member will contact you regarding the next steps. Please allow up to three months for the process to be completed.

ORIGINAL HANS SUMPF MURAL NOW AT MUSEUM

Carol Seabury has graciously donated an original Hans Sumpf Mural to the Historical Society. It is made up of 16 ceramic tiles, all very heavy and plastered on the wall by Carol and Dona Mount. The mural is a beautiful representation of the forest and fits in perfectly with our area. Carol and her daughters donated the mural in memory of their father and husband, F. Christopher Seabury. The Historical Society extends a huge “Thank you” to the Seabury Family for their generosity.
CSHS VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

As our 2012 season comes to a close, we would love to share some highlights of the way that volunteers have served the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum

As a volunteer organization, we are always in need of volunteers who will help us to carry out our mission in preserving the region’s history. No experience is necessary – we will be glad to show you what to do and you will have a good time doing it. Many of our volunteers have been with us for years and have enjoyed the fellowship of like-minded members.

Among the MANY great volunteers that generously donate their time to us are the following:

Ed Selleck generously donates his time to CSHS as a member of v.e.s.t. (Volunteer Education and Service Team) and as the chairperson for COrP (Community Outreach Program). Through the Community Outreach Program he represents the Historical Society at different events throughout the area, including the Intermountain Rotary Club Music Festival, the Intermountain Nursery Harvest Festival, the Clovis Big Hat Days, etc. Ed spearheaded the Oral History Program at the Museum, wherein he interviewed many people of historical interest to the Central Sierra, recording the interview for transcription, thus creating the wonderful books we now have for sale in the museum. Ed was instrumental in creating the historical DVD’s we have for sale. In addition to donating his time to the Historical Society, Ed has donated many items of historical value to the Museum. Ed and his wife of 60 years, Shirley, have made their home in Auberry since his retirement from Southern California Edison Company in 1992.

Jeff Young, a CSHS Board Member and part of the 4th generation of a family that now spans six generations in the Shaver area, is a timber faller and small sawmill operator. Jeff has been instrumental in creating displays for the Museum. If you visited inside the Museum this past summer, you would have seen the exact replica of the flume that Jeff built. It is Jeff who provides the sinker lumber for us to line the walls of our Museum and next year you will see the sinker lumber on the ceiling. Jeff has assisted with the development of the Museum grounds and he is also a member of the Sierra Steamers who fire up the Steam Donkey several times throughout the year. Jeff is committed to the Historical Society and is always available when called upon. His volunteering extends beyond the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum. He has been a volunteer for SCE Science Days, Big Creek Science Camp, and Sierra High chemistry Classes. Jeff and his wife, Dina, and son, Desmond, make their home in Big Creek. He also enjoys spending time with his other two sons, Dan and Riley and their families.

Doug Koerper, owner of Doug Koerper Construction, has lived and worked in the Shaver Lake area for 32 years. He generously donates his time and expertise to the Historical Society in many facets. Doug has worked on the SJ&E Caboose No. 50 and its snow shelter. He is a member of the Sierra Steamers, working on the steam donkey currently on display and assisted with recovering the Musick Mountain steam donkey, which is now being refurbished. He recently worked with a group of volunteers to get the Hayden Sawmill, which will be overhauled and displayed on the Museum grounds. Doug was instrumental in building the Redinger Powerhouse No. 1 at the Museum grounds and is currently spearheading the work being done on the recently received equipment. In addition to volunteering for the Historical Society, he is a member of the Shaver Lake Lions Club and is currently the Treasurer of the Shaver Lake Chamber of Commerce.
The word is out, the place to be on the second Saturday of the month (May – October) is at the museum at Shaver Lake listening to presenters who have a deep connection to the history and preservation of the central Sierra.

The third season of Sierra Voices has once again been very successful. The Central Sierra Historical Society hosts these presentations at our beautiful museum located adjacent to Camp Edison on the shores of Shaver Lake. The mission of the Society is to enrich the cultural and educational experiences of the visitors to the central Sierra Nevada by deepening their understanding of the human and natural history of the area.

In May, our third season began with Gene Rose; retired journalist, author, and mountaineer; who shared his passion for preserving the natural beauty of the Central Sierra. His talk centered around his book “Reflections of Shaver Lake”. The book had been out of print, but, with his permission, the Central Sierra Historical Society reprinted the book and had them available for signing at the conclusion of his presentation. Our June presenter was Russ Westmann, who gave us a detailed historical look at the “Dawning of the Hydroelectric Age,” and how the natural assets of the Central Sierra were essential in that development. Doctor Michael Adams, the son of Ansel Adams, was our July presenter. Using photographs and personal insights, Dr. Adams gave us “A Son’s Perspective” on some of his father’s most famous photographs.

The topic for August was the historical emptying of Shaver Lake. Norm Saude took us on a journey of the lake bottom which hadn’t been seen for over 100 years. Using photographs and first hand observations, he described the significance of the historical artifacts found at the bottom of the lake. In September Sierra Voices had two presentations. On Labor Day the Davis family from Auberry, demonstrated how the earliest residents of the Central Sierra used the natural resources to sustain their lifestyle for centuries. On September 8th, Steve Marsh, U. S. Forest Service Archaeologist, talked about the “Cultural History of the Central Sierra”. His presentation was highlighted by photographs of local artifacts and explanations of how these artifacts are designated as historically significant. Finishing the 2012 series was Phil Bartholomew, son of Orland Bartholomew, who in 1928-29 completed a solo winter trek from Mount Whitney to Yosemite Valley. Phil Bartholomew used his father’s photographs and journal to help us understand how his father survived this six month trip and overcame loneliness, bitter cold, and crude living conditions.

Next spring will be our fourth year and we are looking forward to providing more presenters who will continue to highlight the unique qualities of the central Sierra. Be sure and check our website sometime in March for the list of presenters for 2013.

A special thank you goes to volunteer Tony Cardoza for constructing the much needed new staircase behind the museum. Another thank you goes to Jeff Young for supplying the materials.

Once again the Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum is very pleased to announce the award of a grant from THE WILLIAM H HANNON FOUNDATION.

David W Burcham, a member of the Board of Directors of the Foundation, and a member of the CSHS, chose the Society to be the beneficiary of a grant in the amount of $5,000 for the Directors Fund. Thank you!
Boat Captains Needed

CSHS is looking for experienced boat handlers/operators to serve as Captains/Tour Guides using the Osprey boat, currently on display in the media room at the museum. Qualifications include at least five years of experience with powered pleasure boats; a willingness to study and complete the Department of Boats and Waterways licensing course (unless you are already in possession of another more restrictive license from The Coast Guard, etc.), a medical clearance, and three character/boat handler references. Interested? Please contact John Mount at mount.john@ymail.com or Steve Merrill at ttburnie@sbcglobal.net.

Black Pot Cookers Do It Again!

Once again, the High Sierra Black Pot event held at the Shaver Lake Fishing Club on August 4th was a huge success. Guests, musicians, cooks and helpers totaled 241 this year. The event coordinator, Heather Sullivan, thanks all who participated.

Proceeds from tickets, donations and raffle tickets brought in $25,259, and the costs were low because of generous donations by the Fishing Club and the McDonald Family, leaving $23,815 in net proceeds to benefit the CSHS Building and Exhibit Fund for this year!

New Mar-Val e-Scrap Cards Benefit Museum

Support the educational programs of CSHS by using the new Mar-Val Food Stores eScrap Community Card. Up to 5% of all your purchases made at Mar-Val will be given back to CSHS.

There is no cost to participate. You can enroll in the program simply by calling the museum, where we can enroll for you, or by going into the store. You will be given an enrollment form wherein you will check the program you wish to support. PLEASE check Central Sierra Historical Society and the program number is: 500043099.

Be sure to get a card for each family member who shops at Mar-Val and tell your friends to support the museum by checking us when enrolling. Remember to continue using your S.H.A.R.E.S. Card when you shop at SaveMart or FoodMaxx.

Bell From Lake Bottom on Display at Museum

Southern Cal Edison Hydro Division has gifted the museum with a bell found at the bottom of Shaver Lake when it was drained last winter. The origin of the bell is unknown but it is believed that it may have been a dinner bell at the old Shaver Lake Mill. It is now sitting on a pantry removed from the old home of Barbara Simmons Dark that was also located at the old Mill Site before the area was set afire prior to flooding the basin which is now Shaver Lake. The picture above is of Board President, John Mount, and his wife, Dona with the bell on the pantry. The items can be seen at the museum.
Mission Statement of the Central Sierra Historical Society

The mission of CSHS is to enrich the cultural and educational experiences of visitors to the Sierra Nevada Mountains, by deepening their understanding of the human and natural history of this area. CSHS hopes to inspire future generations by bringing to life the challenges and achievements of the people who lived here.

It is the goal of CSHS to construct and operate a first-class museum and learning center near Shaver Lake that will preserve the heritage of the Central Sierra. CSHS will provide educational programs and activities to the public, it will preserve and protect historical artifacts, and it will work in partnership with other organizations to further the study of the history of this area.