In February another milestone was reached in our Redinger Powerhouse, one that had been a long-term goal since the idea for the project was first discussed. With the donation of two protection relays and through the coordination of a dedicated team the Powerhouse is now able to interconnect the generator to the Southern California Edison grid. These relays were successfully tested and approved to interconnect to the SCE power system per Rule 21. This milestone could not have been reached without the efforts of many, including Dr. Carver Mead, Alonso Rodriguez, Doug Koerper, Mike Collum, Frannie Morrison, Russell Patterson, Fernando Pena Jr., David Huffman, Ray Keith, Joel Preheim, and Steve McCauley. Witnessing the collaboration of so many passionate people was truly inspiring. February 10, 2016 will be a day forever remembered in the history of achievements of the Central Sierra Historical Society.

Construction of our Redinger Powerhouse began in 2009 and it was completed and dedicated in 2013. Named for David H Redinger, Superintendent of SCE’s Big Creek Hydroelectric System from 1912 to his retirement in 1947, it is modeled after one in the community of Big Creek. With the assistance of Dr. Carver Mead, we acquired a hydroelectric generator, control board and associated parts in its original 1904 configuration from the Mill Creek Powerhouse No. 2 in the San Bernardino Mountains. This exhibit, the only running powerhouse in a museum setting in the world, allows demonstrations of engineering, construction, and operational as well as environmental soundness, cost effectiveness and efficiency of power production from water along with its historic value in the growth of development of California. The educational value in seeing a demonstration is incredible! With this new milestone we plan on expanding the educational programs offered here with colleges and universities. Make sure you stop by this summer to check out a live demonstration and learn about the “hardest working water in the world”.

There will be scheduled demonstrations at noon on the following days:

- May 29
- July 2
- July 17
- August 20
- September 4
- October 16

Space is limited and a pass will be required. You can get the pass inside the museum, first come first served. This is a great opportunity for the entire family to learn how water generates electricity.
New Exhibit
Featuring Lewis P.
Swift Collection

In February, Executive Director Lisa Crain and Board Member Jeff Young made a trip to Fresno to the home of Joan and Paul Eaton, descendants of Lewis P. Swift. Joan’s mother married Lewis and Ella’s grandson (her father) in the late 1940’s. Their family has done an incredible job at preserving family heirlooms, paperwork, and artifacts that they have generously donated to our organization. The collection includes over 100 photos ranging from work at the sawmill to family life in Shaver Lake, Fresno, and Detroit where Mr. Swift moved from to open the original mill for the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company with C.B. Shaver. They arrived in 1892.

Also included in the donation are 25 articles of clothing, cash boxes, a sewing kit, an autograph book, letters and postcards, financial statements from the mill site and so much more. We are thrilled to unveil many items from this new collection in our “History of Shaver Lake” exhibit at our big summer kick off on May 29th. We hope you will join us!

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
By Lisa Crain

This year marks an exciting milestone for our organization. We are celebrating our 25th anniversary since CSHS nominated its first Board of Directors and filed for non-profit status. In January of 1991 the Board made one of many steps to lay the groundwork that helped to make possible where we are today. There have been many seasons of change, highs and lows, but mostly a lot of hard work from a variety of dedicated volunteers that has made it possible that we are not only able to celebrate a 25th anniversary, but that we are continuing to push forward to fully achieve our mission.

We have had a busy winter in preparation for the upcoming season. There are so many exciting new changes in the museum. We are looking forward to opening and sharing all of the updates with our visitors. It is an exhilarating time to be a part of the museum. As we kick off campaigns like our matching funds challenge, membership drive, and planning our June fundraiser dinner, I am reminded how lucky I am to be involved with an organization that has such a dedicated group of volunteers and staff supporting it.

Last year we set a lot of records, including the highest number of visitors to the museum! Over 10,000 people came to the museum in 2015 and we hope even more come through our doors this year. We have over 100 new members and quadrupled the amount donated through our annual appeal at the end of the year!

As we plan our big opening kickoff on Memorial Day weekend, the staff and volunteers have been very busy inside the museum. We will be unveiling an exciting new collection of artifacts in our new History of Shaver Lake exhibit. Many items in this collection were donated by Joan Eaton and her family. They are descendants of Lewis P. Swift, one of the founders of the original mill site where Shaver Lake is today. For more information on this collection please see page one of this newsletter.

Another new exhibit will give visitors a closer look of the current devastation happening in our forest due to the bark beetle infestation. To make room for these new exhibits we have done quite a bit of rearranging inside the museum. Returning visitors will notice that we have reworked our Native American, Forestry, Pine Logging exhibits and have moved our sinker log. Be sure to look up when visiting as the propeller from the Steamboat Michigan is now hanging above the flume replica. With so many generous donations to the museum over the years we are now able to rotate exhibits. This allows us time to properly store artifacts to give them time away from sun exposure and lets us create new and exciting stories to tell about the artifacts.

There have been exciting changes happening outside of the museum walls as well. Another huge milestone was reached in our Redinger Powerhouse. We are now able to interconnect to the SCE system, the only museum exhibit in the world that can do so! Make sure you check our calendar for dates of demonstrations so you can see the powerhouse in action.

Our amphitheater has also been the focus of work this spring. With donations collected over the past year we raised enough money to start on the first phase of improvements. Concrete steps have been poured on both sides of the seating areas and the stage has been extended on both sides. Handrails will soon be installed as well. We can’t wait to enjoy the first of many more Friday in the Pines concerts on May 27th.

Please make sure you stop by the museum this summer and invite your friends to join you! The Central Sierra Historical Society needs both your support and participation in events to keep us a vibrant organization. As we continue on our path, we look to the future and all of the exciting new changes with anticipation and gratitude for all of the hard work in the past to get us where we are today.

Thank you for your continued support.
### CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>TIME AND LOCATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 26</td>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
<td>2:00 pm – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation – Students from Big Creek &amp; Pine Ridge Schools – “Bark Beetle Infestation”</td>
<td>1:00 pm – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>Friday in the Pines – Rock Therapy</td>
<td>6:00 pm – Museum Amphitheater</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>Osprey II Boat Tour (First Come First Serve) Limited Availability – Sign Up In Museum</td>
<td>10:00 am &amp; 1:00 pm - Camp Edison Marina</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00 am -3:00 pm – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>Powerhouse Demo (First Come First Serve)</td>
<td>12:00 pm – Museum Powerhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 11</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation – Patrick Emmert “Pine Logging”</td>
<td>1:00 pm – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 18</td>
<td>Hikes for History – Charlie Chinaman’s Camp</td>
<td>10:00 am – Museum Steam Donkey</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 18</td>
<td>Pine Logging Camp Open House</td>
<td>1:00 pm – Pine Logging Camp, Dinkey Creek</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>Friday in the Pines – The Steam Donkeys</td>
<td>6:00 pm – Museum Amphitheater</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 25</td>
<td>Fundraiser Dinner (Tickets in Advance)</td>
<td>5:30 pm – Shaver Lake Community Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00 am-3:00 pm – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>Powerhouse Demo (First Come First Serve)</td>
<td>12:00 pm – Museum Powerhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 3</td>
<td>Pancake Breakfast</td>
<td>7:00 am-11:00 am – SL Community Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 3</td>
<td>Osprey II Boat Tour (First Come First Serve) Limited Availability – Sign Up in Museum</td>
<td>10:00 am &amp; 1:00 pm - Camp Edison Marina</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 9</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation – J Randall McFarland “Ghost Towns of Fresno County”</td>
<td>1:00 pm – Museum Media Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>Hikes for History – TBA</td>
<td>10:00 am – Museum Steam Donkey</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 17</td>
<td>Osprey II Boat Tour (First Come First Serve) Limited Availability – Sign Up in Museum</td>
<td>10:00 am &amp; 1:00 pm - Camp Edison Marina</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 17</td>
<td>Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00 am-3:00 pm – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 17</td>
<td>Powerhouse Demo (First Come First Serve)</td>
<td>12:00 pm – Museum Powerhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 17</td>
<td>Ice Cream Social</td>
<td>1:00 pm – 3:00 pm – Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 29</td>
<td>Friday in the Pines – The Grass Less Traveled</td>
<td>6:00 pm – Museum Amphitheater</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 6</td>
<td>Black Pot Cook-Off (Tickets in Advance)</td>
<td>TBA – Shaver Lake Fishing Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 13</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation – John Mount</td>
<td>1:00 pm – Museum Media Room</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Fire History of the Central Sierra”</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 20</td>
<td>- Hikes for History - TBA</td>
<td>10:00 am – Museum Steam Donkey</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 20</td>
<td>- Osprey II Boat Tour (First Come First Serve)</td>
<td>10:00 am &amp; 1:00 pm - Camp Edison Marina</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 20</td>
<td>- Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00 am-3:00 pm – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 20</td>
<td>- Powerhouse Demo (First Come First Serve)</td>
<td>12:00 pm – Museum Powerhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 20</td>
<td>Big Creek Old Timer’s Picnic</td>
<td>Edison Campground</td>
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<td>August 26</td>
<td>Friday in the Pines – Joni Mitchell Tribute Band</td>
<td>6:00 pm - Museum Amphitheater</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>- Osprey II Boat Tour (First Come First Serve)</td>
<td>10:00 am &amp; 1:00 pm - Camp Edison Marina</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>- Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00 am-3:00 pm – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>- Powerhouse Demo (First Come First Serve)</td>
<td>12:00 pm – Museum Powerhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>- Sierra Voices Presentation</td>
<td>11:00 am-3:00 pm – Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 10</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation – Bud Olson</td>
<td>1:00 pm – Museum Media Room</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Historical Roads: Hwy 168 &amp; Tollhouse Grade to Clovis”</td>
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<td>October 8</td>
<td>Sierra Voices Presentation – Jeff Young</td>
<td>1:00 pm – Museum Media Room</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Interesting Historical Tidbits“</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 16</td>
<td>- Osprey II Boat Tour (First Come First Serve)</td>
<td>10:00 am &amp; 1:00 pm - Camp Edison Marina</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 16</td>
<td>- Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up</td>
<td>10:00 am-3:00 pm – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 16</td>
<td>- Powerhouse Demo (First Come First Serve)</td>
<td>12:00 pm – Museum Powerhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>Fall Carnival</td>
<td>3:00 pm – 9:00 pm – Museum Parking Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 26</td>
<td>Children’s Holiday Crafts</td>
<td>11:00 am– 2:00 pm– Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 11</td>
<td>Museum Closed For Winter</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**2016 MUSEUM HOURS**

May 13 through May 22 - Friday-Sunday 11:00-3:00
May 28 through September 4 – Seven days a week – 11:00-3:00
September 9 through December 11 – Friday-Sunday 11:00-3:00

*We are able to open the museum for special occasions, tour requests, etc.*

*Please call the museum at (559) 841-4478 for more information.*

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Follow us on Instagram

Instagram.com/museumofthecentralsierra

Like us on Facebook

Facebook.com/cshsmuseum
FRIDAY IN THE PINES CONCERT SERIES 2016

By Katie Blanchard

The Friday in the Pines Concert Series for 2016 will begin Friday May 27 at 6:00 p.m. with a performance by an Oakhurst favorite, Rock Therapy. Rock Therapy is a six-member classic rock cover band featuring hits from Journey, Boston, The Eagles, Led Zeppelin, Heart, and more. Last year this group brought the audience to their feet, and we are more than thrilled to host them again.

Our concert series continues on Friday June 24th with an encore performance by The Steam Donkeys, whose musical talent shines in bluegrass, American folk and classic rock. Concert goes especially enjoyed the group's original tunes as well as their interaction with the audience. Mark your calendars as this group is a huge crowd pleaser!

The museum loves to present new groups to our lovely amphitheater so please join us for the July's Fridays in the Pines concert July 29th featuring a 5-piece Bluegrass band called The Grass Less Traveled. Sit back and enjoy a range of fun toe tapping bluegrass music.

On Friday, August 26th at 6:00 p.m., the amphitheater will present another new and unique “tribute” band featuring world class musicians playing Joni Mitchell songs. The bank covers a large swath of Mitchell's career, spanning more than 30 years of her catalog. Santa Barbara-based, Kimberly Ford, and her bandmates have sold out concerts in Southern California, the Midwest and Ireland. Come see why!!!

The amphitheater is a perfect venue for picnicking and relaxing while listening to great music. Chairs, blankets, food and drinks will continue to be welcomed. Our concerts have brought to our Shaver community some great talent, are always fun, and continue to have free admission.

Artist donations are appreciated.

SIERRA VOICES PRESENTATION 2016

By Dina Young

The Central Sierra Historical Society is excited to invite you to the 7th season of its Sierra Voices program at the Museum of the Central Sierra (42642 Tollhouse Rd., Shaver Lake, CA 93664). You won’t want to miss this year’s line-up! The program is held the second Saturday of every month from May through October at 1:00 pm in the museum's media room. Sierra Voices is an educational program that invites guest presenters to share information that pertains to the history and culture of our beautiful area. It is the goal the Central Sierra Historical Society to construct and operate a first-class museum and learning center in Shaver Lake that will preserve the heritage of the Central Sierra.

5/14  “Bark Beetle Infestation” by Big Creek and Pine Ridge students. As much as we despise these creatures for destroying acres upon acres of trees, we can’t ignore them or the need to understand them and the circumstances that brought them to kill the area's trees. They will show you the current stage of development of a local infestation using a dissecting scope. The students are researching this as part of the museum’s Partnership in Education Program (PEP), a program in which the museum partners with local schools to integrate and extend curriculum.

6/11  “Pine Logging” by Patrick Emmert. Pine Logging Company of California was a lumber mill whose logging and sawmill operations moved to Dinkey Creek, California in 1937. Robert Grimmett and Jim Rohrbaugh were responsible for building at Dinkey, and operations continued there until 1979. Mr. Emmert will discuss the logging and sawmill operations prior to the move to Dinkey Creek and show a DVD about Pine Logging that his cousins created. Audience members will be invited to speak of their experiences living at the Pine Logging Camp.

(Continued On Page 6)
“Ghost Towns of Fresno County” by Fresno County Historian J. Randall McFarland. “Around Fresno County there are more than five dozen communities from various eras that no longer exist, including several in the mountains and foothills” says McFarland. “They are fascinating footnotes to our county’s history.” McFarland lives in Kingsburg. He has written, edited or co-authored six local history books and appeared in the Fresno Historical Society film A Land Between Rivers. He is completing preparation of a four-part public television documentary on southern San Joaquin Valley water systems that is to air in May on Valley PBS (KVPT, Channel 18, Fresno). He chaired the Fresno County Historical Landmarks Commission for 30 years and remains a member. In Selma where he formerly lived, McFarland is former chairman of the Selma Arts Council. In the mountains, he is secretary-treasurer and a past president of the Camp Sierra Conference Association. For nearly 26 years, he has served as a public information consultant to a number of water agencies, including the Kings River Water Association and Fresno Irrigation District. Earlier in his career, he reported for or edited several newspapers, including 18 years on the Selma Enterprise and Kingsburg Recorder. McFarland has lived in Fresno County for most of the past 59 years and is a Fresno State College graduate.

“Fire History of the Central Sierra” by John Mount and others. You will learn the history of fires in the area including prior to 1850, and also hear some bonus first-hand accounts of folks who worked on some of these fires. John R. Mount has worked for Southern California Edison for 31 years, managing the company’s 20,000 acres of private land surrounding Shaver Lake. He has a total of 57 years in forest management starting with the Forest Service and then 15 years in private practice. John has received the Governor’s Environmental and Economic Leadership Award Stewardship Award, and the Conservationist of the Year award from the western section of the Wildlife Society. He was recipient of the Francis Raymond Award, as outstanding forester in California for 2010. He is a 1961 graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, where he received a B.S. degree in forest management. John was chair of the Central Sierra Historical Society Board of Directors from 2002 to 2013, he is currently the Chair of the Board of Trustees.

“Roads of the Old Days” by Bud Olsen. Mr. Olsen returns with wonderful pictures and information about the old Highway 168 and Tollhouse Grade into Clovis. What were these roads like? Who used them? How long did they take to travel upon? Bud Olson is a retired history teacher with an MA in history from FSU. He is a lifelong resident of our mountain community and is one of the founders and workers of the Eastern Fresno County Historical Society and has spent many years collecting pictures and stories from our rapidly disappearing elders.

“Interesting Historical Tidbits” by Jeff Young. Mr. Young returns with historical tidbits that will not only pique your interest, but will also teach you about various occurrences that you may not have heard about. You will not be disappointed in Mr. Young’s research findings! Jeff Young is a lifelong, 4th generation resident of the area and a local historian. He is a logger, sawmill operator, science teacher, and museum board member.

2016 STEAM DONKEY “STEAM-UP” SCHEDULE

The Sierra Steamers can be seen in action in the parking lot at the Museum of the Central Sierra. The Steam-Ups are always from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.

- May 29
- July 2
- July 17
- August 20
- September 4
- October 16

For great family fun, bring the children and let them blow the whistle!
2016 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

56 CSHS members met at the Museum of the Central Sierra on Saturday, March 26, 2016. Board Chairperson, Keith Swinger and Executive Director, Lisa Crain, co-conducted the business meeting and recapped the Historical Society’s past year.

Board of Trustee Co-Chair, John Mount, presented a brief historical perspective of the organization and noted this year, 2016, marks the 25th anniversary of the organization.

Board Treasurer, Robert Knapp, provided the members with the FY 2015/2016 financial report and encouraged increased effort to expand membership.

Keith Swinger then recognized the members of the original Board of Directors for the Society: Steve McDonald, Daryll Moore, Frank McDivitt, Joe Weirick, Helen Grossman, Gary Blasingame, Bill Crider, Gene Harker, Dee Wilkins, Betty Matthews, Rusty Heck, Barbara Gavel, and John Sthol (who continues to be a board member to this day).

The election of the 2016-2017 Officers and Directors took place. The Historical Society’s Annual Membership Meeting is always held the last Saturday in March of every year.

OSPREY II BOAT TOURS OFFERED
Written by Steve Merrill

In your future, plan to float into the past!
That’s not a misprint, trust me! It’s an invitation to ‘journey’ into Shaver Lake’s past aboard the Osprey II.

This summer on the Lake, several opportunities to ‘float into the past’ will be offered, including May 29, July 3, July 17, August 20, September 4, and October 16*. One of our licensed captains, Robert Knapp, Leigh Ann Davis, or Steve Merrill, will lead groups of up to 4 adults on a 45 minute ‘float’ around the Lake, pointing out historic sites above and below the water, along with information about the motor cruiser’s namesake, the Osprey.

Don’t worry, we have all appropriate safety equipment AND all historic sites below the water will be discussed only from above the water!

It is recommended that a reservation to ride be arranged through the Museum Office (559-841-4478), first-come, first-served. We anticipate this list filling up quickly! Donations to the museum will be gladly accepted.

Thanks, and we look forward to floating into the past with you this summer at Shaver Lake aboard the Osprey II!

*All scheduling is subject to good weather and water levels in the Lake.

PINE LOGGING CAMP OPEN HOUSE

The Pine Logging Camp, located on Dinkey Creek Road, once was a thriving summer logging operation of the Grimmet Family. Many Fresno individuals spent summers working there. The remaining buildings on the site have been renovated by volunteers of the Central Sierra Historical Society, and the United States Forest Service.

It is now the site of an annual event which brings together those interested in the history of the area as well as those who had personal recollections to recount. The event is open to the public. There will be an open house on Saturday, June 18 at 1:00 p.m. If you go, you will get a chance to view new interpretive signs installed in the buildings, the USFS Fire Station, barracks, and heliport pads. Wildflowers could still be seen throughout the area and meadows. Feel free to bring a picnic lunch.
MEMORIAL DONATIONS
We hope you will remember the Society when you are planning your estate, or as a fitting means of honoring a departed friend or loved one.

Connie Amesbury  John Lockhart  Maurice Maxwell Wait
David Carolan  Virginia Meux  Joanne Weirick
Elaine Clark  Scott Newquist  Kit Yager
Wm P & Mela E Cunningham  Camron Pius
Suzanne Carpenter Kemp  Patrick TeNyenhuis

GIFT 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.

Curtis & Carmen Manganaan by Marcia & Keith Swinger

RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA PRINT OR E-MAIL

Our first effort at sending our newsletter by e-mail proved to be a big success. Approximately 1/3 of our mailing list chose to receive it by e-mail. The feedback was overwhelming. We heard that the newsletter was easier to read, and that those who wanted to read it on paper simply printed it out.

We have e-mail addresses for some members and some non-members. Recognizing that our list is not complete, we are asking for your help. If you would like to receive future newsletters by e-mail, simply send us your address to cshs@sierrahistorical.org. Enter “Newsletter” in the subject line.

In addition to receiving your newsletter in advance of those through the mail, you are saving the Historical Society many dollars in printing and shipping costs. Thank you for that.

S.H.A.R.E.S. IS NOW POWERED BY eSCRIP

For our friends and neighbors who use a S.H.A.R.E.S. card whenever shopping at SaveMart, Lucky, Food 4 Less, or FoodMaxx stores, they have made changes to the program that you should be aware of. Your S.H.A.R.E.S. cards are no longer usable after March 31, 2016. Starting April 1, you simply enter your 10-digit number at their card terminals.

If you haven’t already, please register online by visiting http://escrip.com. During the registration process, you will be asked to select our organization. Enter: Central Sierra Historical Society (ID # 500023099) and select it. If you already have an eScrip account, select ADD PHONE/CARD and enter your 10-digit phone number.

This is a great way to support CSHS as eScrip contributes up to 3% of your qualified purchases to our organization.

COME SEE OUR NEW ITEMS IN THE GIFT SHOP!
The Partnership in Education Program (PEP), which includes a partnership with Big Creek and Pine Ridge schools, continues to focus on connecting the 4th graders to the rich history of the central Sierra. All sessions are at or around the museum at Shaver Lake. We had two sessions in the fall and will conclude with two sessions in the spring. April will focus on the importance of steam power in powering the S.J. and E. railroad as well as hydro power for generating electricity. In May, the day will be spent learning about the logging industry and the effects of the bark beetle infestation. We are excited and proud of how the students have demonstrated to parents and other adults their depth of understanding and application of what they have learned throughout the year at the museum.

We expanded our program to include a middle school science component for the 2014/2015 school year and we continued this year. The students focus on strategies to maintain a healthy, and vibrant forest. Using microscopes and tablets, students studied the effect of drought, fire, herbicide and mulching on the variety of plants and trees from fall to spring in four plots of forest land, but soon it became apparent that an even bigger issue was affecting our forests.

The bark beetle infestation and subsequent damage to the forest refocused the 2015/2016 activities on identifying the causes of the infestation as well as an in-depth study of the beetle and how it kills the trees. Students debarked dead and dying trees in search of the cause. They collected samples of the various stages of beetle development and began tracking the damage that occurs beneath the protective bark of the infected trees. These studies will continue in the classroom as well as at the museum. At the final session in May, students will discuss their findings and begin the process of putting their findings in writing. These sessions support the current middle school grade science standards which include hands-on activities, fieldwork and research projects.

At the end of last year, the students attended the American Geophysical Union symposium in San Francisco to observe students presenting scientific studies from around the nation. Our expectation is that a student group, or groups, from our schools will present their findings about the bark beetle at this year’s symposium.

CSHS will broaden the reach of the PEP program by hiring an Education Coordinator who will focus on promoting our program to districts in the Central San Joaquin Valley. This year we provided sessions to charter schools, and schools from Sanger and Porterville. We are hopeful that this outreach will grow.

We are looking forward to another rewarding year at the museum as we continue to provide and support dynamic student learning anchored in the rich resources of the Central Sierra to students and parents from throughout the Central Valley of California.
If you feel that you can contribute to the good works of the Historical Society as a member of the Board of Directors or as a member of the Board of Trustees, please feel free to contact Lisa Crain at lisacrain@sierrahistorical.org.

STAFFING CHANGES AT THE MUSEUM OF THE CENTRAL SIERRA

The Society has evolved with various leadership and economic scenarios. Over the past 25 years, volunteer staffing and leadership has been the reason for much of the success, but cannot fully achieve the goals desired by the members and Board. It is proven that paid employees are critical to the successful continuity of the Society and to the accomplishment of our long term goals. This year we have some changes to our staffing. Becky Davis has semi-retired from her position of six years as Administrative Assistant. She now works two days a week as the Membership Coordinator. Kerri Elizondo continues her duties as the Bookkeeper and has assumed most of the Administrative Assistant duties. Katie Blanchard will no longer work every weekend but she will continue to work on the weekends of the Friday In The Pines concerts and the Steam Donkey Steam-Ups. Deb Bell and Joy West continue their positions as Museum Assistants. This will be their third summer at the museum!

Finally, Nettie Carroll joins our staff as Education Coordinator. We are thrilled to have Nettie join our team. It is our goal with this position to expand our outreach to schools in the valley and to build on the work already being done with PEP to plan and implement interpretive educational programs at the museum. The establishment and cultivation of relationships with teachers and administrators will be a large part of her role as well as working closely with our education committee and staff. If you know of a school that may be interested in visiting the museum, please have them contact Nettie at nettiecarroll@sierrahistorical.org for more information.
CSHS BOARD WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS

The Board of Directors welcomes two new members, Steve McQuillan and Norman Saude.

**Steven M McQuillan**

Steven has been a member of the California State Bar since 1982. He has been a partner at Jacobson, Hansen and McQuillan since 1999 and was a partner at Parichan, Renberg, Crossman and Harvey for 15 years prior. His practice emphasizes general insurance and corporate defense, trade secrets/unfair competition and ERISA litigation. Steven is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates had has been on the Board of Directors of the San Joaquin Chapter since 2011. In 2015 Steven had the privilege of serving as President of the San Joaquin Chapter. He has also served as President of the Board of Directors of Valley Medical Center Foundation, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Clovis Swim Club and as the Regional Director for Destination Imagination. Steve coached elementary, middle and high school students in Destination Imagination/Odyssey of the Mind for 14 years, coached the Fresno State Mock Trial Team for 9 years, and has taught Trial Practice at the San Joaquin College of Law since 2012. Steven and his wife own a home in Ockenden and is presently on the Board of Directors of the Ockenden Homeowners Association.

**Norman Saude**

Norm was born in Los Angeles and moved to Shaver Lake in 1971. For the past 41 years he has owned August Construction in Tollhouse, California. His company built the covered walkway at the Museum of the Central Sierra as well as the Mack Truck building on its grounds. His crew installed the beautiful ceiling in the Museum’s main building, using sinker lumber harvested from the bottom of Shaver Lake. Norm has been a Sierra Unified School Board member for 19 years. His other accomplishments include two years as president of the Fresno County Trustee Association and service as a board member of F.O.A.L., Friends of the Auberry Library. He has recently been nominated vice-president of The California School Board Association. Norm loves steam engines, and is the co-founder of the Sierra Steamers, a local group who refurbished and operate the 1905 Dolbeer Steam Donkey exhibit at the Museum of the Central Sierra. With Norm’s assistance, the Steamers are currently restoring a second Steam Donkey.

Thank you both for your service to the Historical Society!

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CHILDREN’S LEARNING CENTER CONTINUES TO BE A HUGE SUCCESS

Once again, due to its tremendous popularity, we will be giving the younger visitors to the museum the opportunity to learn about the history of our area by doing crafts. Children visiting the Museum of the Central Sierra have the opportunity to participate in one of four activities. They can make either a Native American Necklace, a Native American Headband, a Monarch Butterfly Hand Puppet, or a Monarch Butterfly Headpiece. Parents and grandparents love the idea that they could visit the Museum exhibits while their children are engaged in challenging and fun activities.

So many children participate that we are asking for volunteers to supervise the activities, especially when special events take place, such as the Ice Cream Social.

The Children’s Learning Center is the result of a generous donation by a dedicated volunteer, Connie Amesbury, who passed away last year. It was Connie’s desire that we continue the educational crafts program. A beautiful handcrafted table made by Kyle Lee, who works at the Shaver Lake Hotel, is now in place and ready for the crafts to be made. You must go to the museum and see this table. It is beautiful.
THE IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEERING

The Society is always looking for willing helpers. Just in the past year, members and friends alike have lent their talents in many ways. Volunteers generously donated almost 6,000 hours of their time in 2015. 2016 looks to be another busy year and help is needed. Or, to put it more appropriately, the Society needs your help! There are lots of opportunities and there is always a place for your particular talent. Have a busy schedule already? Don’t worry. Any amount of time you can contribute is valuable. Are you a great organizer, or do you have computer skills? We have projects for that. Are you one of those people who just love to clean? We have plenty of glass cleaner and wipes. Are you a people person? We welcome anyone with a gift of gab! Whatever your skill or interest, we will try to accommodate. We don’t believe in a team of one. If we all give some of our time, energy and effort to help move the Society forward, imagine what great things we can accomplish!

THANK YOU as always to everyone that supports the museum, you make it possible for our projects to get done.

DOCENT PROGRAM
AT THE MUSEUM

We are entering our fifth year of the Docent Program. Beginning this year, the program will be facilitated by Bill Donaghy. People interested in the history of the Central Sierra and the growths of the museum have been meeting on the 2nd Friday of the month at 9:00 to share ideas and information. Presentations at these meetings have been fun, interesting and educational. There are many opportunities to fit your interest. Whether your interest is specific to an area like railroads, the steam donkey engine or the powerhouse, or maybe you would prefer to greet visitors inside the museum, being a docent has much to offer. We have a very comprehensive docent manual which is available at the office.

V.E.S.T.

v.e.s.t. = Volunteer Education Service Team

Our Mission: To create awareness of the Museum and the Central Sierra Historical Society and to provide events and education

Ways to get involved:

* JOIN V.E.S.T.
* Become a docent
* Help with an event: Ice Cream Social, Annual Fundraising Dinner, Children’s Holiday and Summer Crafts
* Volunteer for the Partnership in Education Program: outreach to schools with local education opportunities

We need volunteers to assist us in accomplishing our mission.

We need YOU!
Meet new people.
Have fun while working to enhance our museum.

Call for more information: Alice Knapp (855-8277) or Mary Warner (841-8781)
BARK BEETLE DOCUMENTARY BEING DONE AT THE MUSEUM OF THE CENTRAL SIERRA

Work has begun on an exciting new project! Through the generous donation of trustee, Dr. John Boogaert and his wife Christine Crossan we have begun filming a documentary to inform people about the bark beetle epidemic. It is our hopes that this will draw national attention to this devastating chapter in our forest’s history. John and Christine bring years of experience and talent to the project with their previous film work. It is our ultimate goal to have this aired on the National Geographic and PBS.

As an historical organization we feel it is our responsibility to document this epidemic and provide accurate data and information to those that are less informed about the history and health of our forests. It is our goal to create an educational film that documents what has happened, is happening, and how these decisions and events have shaped the health of our forests. We are interviewing experts ranging from wildlife biologists, foresters, fire management professionals, landowners, hydrologists, and more from the US Forest Service. SCE, PG&E, and Cal Fire. If you are interested in donating to this project to help cover costs of travel, filming, editing, and more please contact Lisa Crain at lisacrain@sierrahistorical.org. A project of this magnitude has the potential to put our organization on the map and we are excited about the possibilities it holds for helping to ensure our forests are properly managed in the future.

FALL CARNIVAL 2015

Last October we partnered with the Shaver Lake Visitor’s Bureau to host a Fall Carnival. With the help and support of our community we pulled off a fun, family-friendly event. We had close to 300 people attend this free event and they were able to enjoy hayrides, carnival games, pumpkin decorating, a costume contest for children and more! With the help of Camp Edison, braver attendees took part in a haunted ghost walk through the forest. Food and beverages were available to purchase. A good time was had by all that came and it was decided on the spot that we would be making this an annual event. We are looking forward to even more fun this year on October 22nd at the museum. If you are interested in helping us with this event, please give us a call!

HIKES FOR HISTORY

This summer we will continue our successful Hikes for History program. Last year approximately 60 people enjoyed one or more of the narrated hikes.

The scheduled dates for the 2016 hikes are: June 18 – Hike to Charlie Chinaman’s Camp
                                            July 16 – Place to be decided
                                            August 20 – Place to be decided

We will soon post the destinations for the July 16 and August 20 dates on our website. An email will also be sent. We hope you can join us!
OUR THANKS TO CSHS BUSINESS MEMBERS

Thank you to the following BUSINESS MEMBERS who have renewed or became new members with a $250 donation in 2016. If you have a business, won’t you please consider being a business member with the Historical Society? Your name is mentioned in the newsletters and advertised on a poster at the Museum.

- Boy Scouts of America, Sequoia Council #027, Fresno
- Cal State University, Fresno
- Cressman’s General Store, Pine Ridge
- Doug Koerper Construction, Shaver Lake
- FACSCO, Fresno
- Golden Empire Electric, Bakersfield
- McPheeters & Associates, Clovis
- Muir Trail Ranch, Ahwahnee
- Ponderosa Telephone, O’Neals
- Sierra Forest Products, Terra Bella
- TB Pump Systems, Madera
- Valley Fence Company, Shaver Lake

Each era is intertwined with what has come before, and in turn leaves some legacy for the future. Our community’s future depends on businesses like yours, supporting the work of volunteers and non-profit organizations such as ours.

MATCHING FUNDS CHALLENGE

We are hard at work to raise money to meet the offer of a matching funds challenge mentioned in last year’s fall newsletter. An anonymous donor has agreed to match $30,000 per year for three years under the provision that we can get other donors to first make a combined donation of at least $30,000 each year. We have the potential to raise $180,000 over the next three years, outside of grants and fundraising events. We are growing closer to reaching this year’s goal. With your help we can surpass it! Please call us at (559) 841-4478 or email lisacrain@sierrahistorical.org to find out how you can help contribute to this campaign.

DO YOU NEED A PLACE TO HOLD YOUR EVENTS?

OUR MEETING ROOM CAN BE RENTED

CALL THE MUSEUM FOR SPECIFICS
SUGGESTED OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPONSORSHIP

Have you wished you could have a lasting impact on the Museum of the Central Sierra? Here’s your chance…. Donations are appreciated to fund the following projects:

1. Amphitheater Improvement Project.
2. An addition to the Mack Truck Display.
3. Computer topo map projection display.
4. Emmert Stamp Mill Project.
5. Floor matting for Caboose floor.
6. Flume exhibit and tender’s cabin.
7. Interpretive sign kiosks for: Sawmill, Mack Truck, Caboose, Hydro Exhibit, Amphitheater, Nature Trail.
8. Installation of fence enclosure around the Steam Donkey.
9. LED lighting for Caboose snow shed, Steam Donkey snow shed, and Mack Truck building.
10. New custom-made display cases to expand display efficiency and improve security for artifacts.
11. Office supplies, i.e. copy paper.
12. Restoration of sawmill donated by the Hayden Family.
13. Restoration of an Alison Steam Boiler/Engine Mining Exhibit.
14. Restoration of the Musick Mountain Steam Donkey.
15. Security cameras for Museum building and all outdoor exhibits.
17. Shaver Lake Fire Truck No. 1.
19. Storage facility with two 40-ft containers.
20. Trailer for Administrative Offices.

ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL TO BE HELD JULY 17

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
At the Museum
IT’S FREE!
Sponsored by v.e.s.t.
HISTORICAL SOCIETY BENEFITS FROM RECENT GRANTS

The Central Sierra Historical Society & Museum is very pleased to announce the recent award of five grants.

THE BERTHA AND JOHN GARABEDIAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION awarded a $5,000 grant to CSHS for education purposes related to the 2016/2017 Sierra Voices Program and to the 2016/2017 Partnership In Education Program (PEP). Including these grants, the CSHS has received grants totaling $66,000 from the Bertha and John Garabedian Charitable Foundation.

THE WILLIAM H HANNON FOUNDATION of Santa Monica, CA awarded a $5,000 grant to CSHS specifically for the Director’s Fund.

THE SHAVER LAKE LIONS CLUB awarded a $1,000 grant to CSHS to the General Operations Fund.

THE EATON AND GIBSON FAMILY FUND at the Central Valley Community Foundation awarded a $500 grant for a museum display.

THE BENNETT FAMILY FOUNDATION FUND at the Central Valley Community Foundation awarded a $5000 grant to the General Operations Fund.

THE CENTRAL VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION has awarded a $10,000 grant from their Arts and Culture grant cycle. The grant was written for an exciting new program for the Museum called Sounds of the Sierra. With this money and money from our upcoming June fundraiser dinner we will be able to create an app that visitors both on-site and from anywhere in the world can download for free and interact with our exhibits. This is an innovative project for a museum of any size so we are thrilled to be embarking on this journey, especially with CVCF as a supporter.

The CSHS Board of Directors, Museum members, and the volunteers who have been working on these projects are very grateful for the generosity of The Bertha and John Garabedian Charitable Foundation, The William H Hannon Foundation, The Shaver Lake Lions Club, The Eaton and Gibson Family Fund, The Bennett Family Foundation Fund and the Central Valley Community Foundation. We THANK YOU all for your continued Support.

***CSHS CELEBRATES 25 YEARS! ***

The Central Sierra Historical Society has reached a major milestone. We are celebrating 25 years of incorporation and have achieved many accomplishments. A 6400 square foot museum is complete and being used extensively for all programs envisioned in the plan adopted in 1999. Four major stand-alone exhibits exist separate from the museum building. The 1902 Dolbeer Steam Donkey Engine, the restored SJ&E Caboose #50, the 1919 Mack Truck Building, and the Redinger No. 1 Powerhouse are complete and being used extensively throughout the season. An amphitheater which seats 150 is in place. Financially, the Society has maintained a responsible management of all donations and grants. Many programs have been established and add to visitor use of the facilities. All of these programs are educationally based for all ages, and are anchored in the history of the area.

Many educational programs designed for school aged children have been established and maintained over the past years. Science Days is designed to introduce students of all ages to the various natural resources encompassed in the Central Sierra. PEP (Partnership In Education Program), a major educational program, has been funded and initiated for elementary school students as an integral segment of classroom learning. This program is currently focused on fourth and eighth grade students and is just the beginning of the vision of the Society.

This responsible approach to a difficult fulfillment of the original plan demonstrates clearly that the viability of the CSHS is ready for the next stage. New board members, administrators, and members will lead in the further expansion of the Society.
Spring 2016 Newsletter

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of:

☐ $1000.00 - Gold Donor
☐ $ 500.00 - Silver Donor
☐ $ 250.00 - Bronze Donor
☐ $ 250.00 – Business Donor
☐ $ 100.00 – Benefactor
☐ $ 75.00 – Patron
☐ $ 35.00 – Family
☐ $ 20.00 – Individual

IN ADDITION:

☐ I would like to donate $________ to the Museum Building Fund.

☐ I would like to donate $________ in memory of: ________________________________
   And I would like a notice of my donation be sent to:

   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

☐ I would like to donate a gift membership in the amount of $________________________

   Name ________________________________
   Address ________________________________
   City __________________ State _______ Zip __________

   Name ________________________________
   Address ________________________________
   City __________________ State _______ Zip __________
   Home Phone ________________________________
   Cell Phone ________________________________

   Email Address ________________________________

   Method of Payment: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Personal Check

   Name on Card ________________________________
   Credit Card Number ________________________________
   Exp. Date ________________________________

WE ARE SUPPORTED
SOLELY BY THE
GENEROSITY OF
OUR DONORS

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL: 559-841-4478

All members will receive the CSHS newsletter.
Each paid membership constitutes one vote at the CSHS Annual Meeting.
The Central Sierra Historical Society is a California nonprofit corporation formed to preserve the history of the Central Sierra Mountain area. We operate exclusively for public benefit and educational purposes within the margins of section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Tax ID # 77-0280796