

Honoring America's 250th Through Tahoe's History

As part of the nationwide celebration of America's 250th Anniversary, the Gatekeeper's Museum is honoring Tahoe's rich history by sharing unique stories from our past. Throughout the year, we have been revisiting historic travel, people, and places through a growing collection of short history videos on our social media platforms and YouTube channel. We now have more than 40 videos available, and we invite you to subscribe and explore Tahoe's fascinating history. Visit www.gatekeepersmuseum.org to subscribe and follow along as we continue to add new content.

The celebration continues on Saturday, August 1, during our annual Heritage Trail and Open House. This year's event will feature a special one-day exhibition presented by the University of Nevada, Reno celebrating Dr. James Church, the father of modern snow surveying. Join us for live music, refreshments, and a special ceremony honoring Dr. Church's remarkable contributions to the Lake Tahoe region and the science of snow surveying.

We'll round out our America 250 celebration at the Lake Tahoe Concours d'Elegance on August 7–8, 2026, where the Gatekeeper's Museum will host an exhibit tent celebrating Tahoe's unique history. We hope you'll join us this summer as we commemorate America's 250th anniversary by celebrating the people, places, and stories that have shaped the Lake Tahoe community.



Preserving Tahoe's History for Future Generations

We are proud to announce that the Carol Van Etten Oral History Program has now been fully digitized, making nearly 300 oral history interviews available to the public free of charge on our website. This milestone honors the legacy of our dear friend Carol Van Etten and was made possible through the generous support of the Lake Tahoe Maritime Foundation.

Our preservation efforts continue as we digitize our newsletters, publications, event programs, and special historical articles written by local historians. By preserving these materials in digital form, we are ensuring that Lake Tahoe's rich history remains accessible for generations to come.

We invite you to explore these resources by visiting the Historical Resources page at www.gatekeepersmuseum.org. If you would like to support our ongoing digitization and preservation efforts, please consider making a donation through our website. Your generosity helps preserve Lake Tahoe's history and ensures these important stories remain freely available for future generations.

Watson Cabin Returns to the Heart of Tahoe City

Ribbon Cutting &
Grand Re-Opening Ceremony



This spring, we were thrilled to celebrate the reopening of the historic Watson Cabin with a wonderful community open house. The event marked the completion of an important restoration project and officially reintroduced one of Tahoe City's most treasured landmarks to residents and visitors alike.

The celebration featured live music, remarks from our Executive Director, and special guests including Gail Scoville of the Tahoe City Public Utility District and representatives from the Placer County Sheriff's Office. One of the day's highlights was an interview with longtime North Lake Tahoe Historical Society member Bob Dolton, age 94, who shared his memories of visiting Lake Tahoe in the 1940s and reflected on the enduring importance of Watson Cabin to our community. If you were unable to attend, you can watch Bob's interview, the ceremony, and additional videos on our website and YouTube channel.

Although the restoration is complete, our work to preserve Watson Cabin continues. We invite you to become a part of its future by supporting our ongoing preservation efforts. Donors who contribute \$1,000 or more to the Watson Cabin Restoration Fund will be recognized with their name on a permanent plaque inside the cabin, creating a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Your generosity helps ensure that Watson Cabin remains a place where the stories of Tahoe's past can continue to inspire future generations. Please consider making your donation online today and help us preserve Lake Tahoe's history.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming highlights include basket weaving and beading classes, history talks, the Tahoe Literary Festival, Heritage Trails, Decorative Gourd Making, the Lake Tahoe Concours d'Elegance, and our annual Watson Cabin Haunted House.

For event details, registration, and the latest schedule, visit www.gatekeepersmuseum.org. We look forward to seeing you at the museum!



gatekeepersmuseum.org