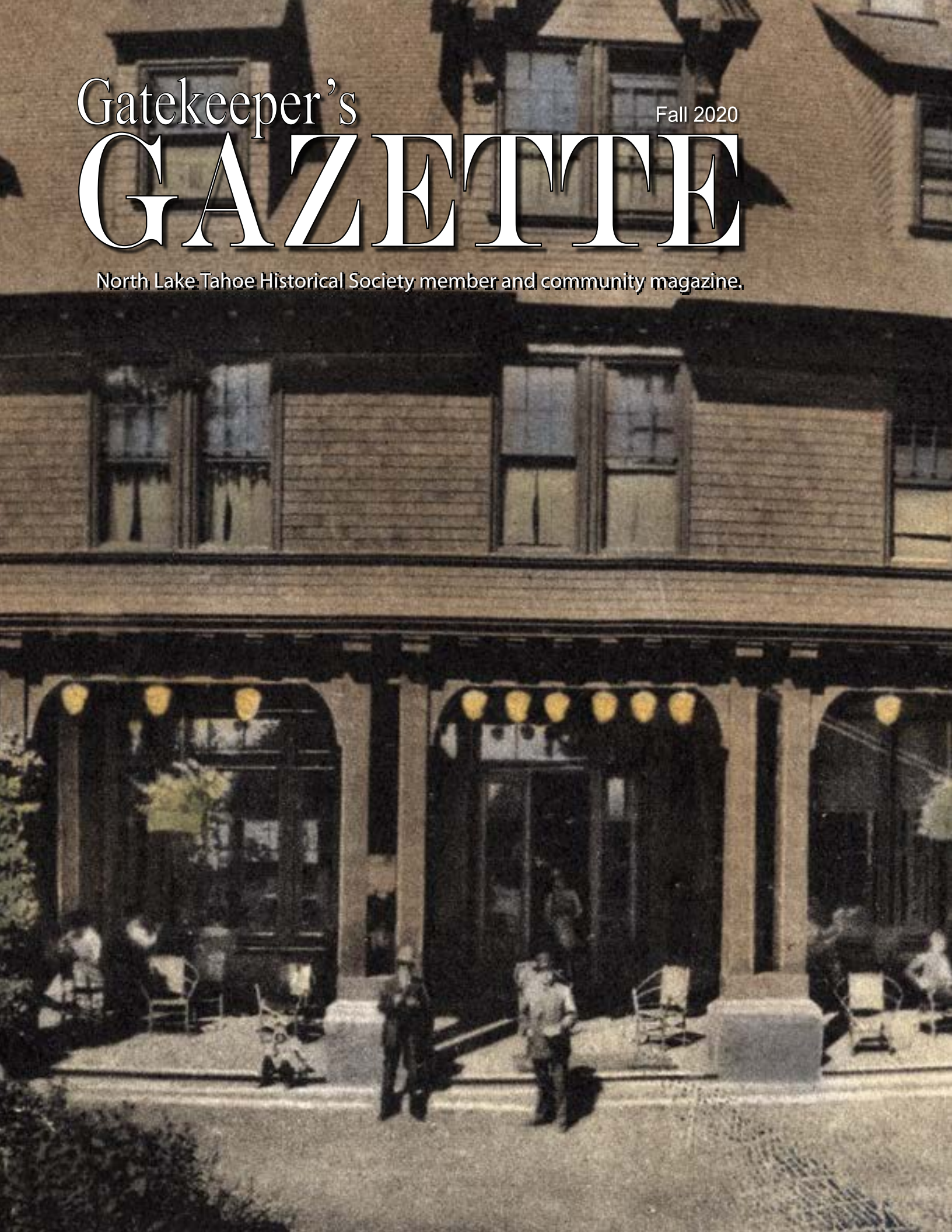


Gatekeeper's

Fall 2020

GAZETTE

North Lake Tahoe Historical Society member and community magazine.



Gatekeeper's GAZETTE



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President's Message



I hope all is well with all of our members/donors and those who may become part of this group in the future. As you all are aware, this year has been quite different from past experiences and has brought forth challenges to the world that, though not unheard of, does not happen very often and tends to turn our lives upside down as we strive

to survive. I am sure that all of us have Covid-19 experiences of our own and it is the hope and prayer of the entire NLTHS board and staff that all of you will remain intact through all of this.

For the organization itself, we have had to postpone or cancel all of our events for 2020 and we are looking forward to reestablishing them in the future. All but one wedding event was cancelled at the park which made life somewhat more peaceful in the park but the lost revenue was sorely missed. The last community event held here was the Ice Carving contest that was held during Snowfest in early March just prior to strict shut downs.

I would like to thank those of you that responded to our appeal during the Spring and early Summer this year. We have not had such a strong positive response to our Annual Appeal for a few years. A special thanks to Deborah Hanna our Museum/Gift shop manager and board member MaryAnne Dunlap who together developed the mailer that made up the appeal. It is that kind of effort that makes our organization strong.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce and welcome our new Executive Director, Phil Sexton. He comes from the California State Parks system in the Sacramento area and has a great deal of museum experience along with years of contacts throughout the California museum culture. Phil started with us in May and hit the ground running with the most current accomplishment being the successful writing and receiving of a Cares Grant from Placer County.

We have also been a successful recipient of a PPP loan which we will be asking for full forgiveness when the time comes so we are very thankful for these helpful programs during the time we could not operate and generate our own revenue.

I would like to thank California State Parks for their willingness to work with us during this difficult time, I believe this situation helped create a stronger working relationship. I also want to thank my fellow board members David Antonucci, Stan Batiste, MaryAnne and Malcolm Dunlap, Sue Devoe and Paul Ackerman who all strived to stay healthy and attend board meetings (albeit through Zoom), to keep the organization going.

Our museum and gift shop are now open on a limited basis and will remain so as long as Placer County can stay in the category that allows this. So, come on by, introduce yourself to Phil and say hi to Deborah who has stayed on through thick and thin. Bring in a new member and make a donation and let's get things going again!

—Jim Phelan



Orange light at dawn in William Layton Park, caused by heavy smoke in the basin during the California fires in August and September.

Gatekeeper's GAZETTE

Fall 2020

Board of Directors

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Stan Batiste Vice President, Development
Susan Devoe
Malcom Dunlap Vice President, Finance
Mary Ann Dunlap
Jim Phelan President

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Deborah Hanna Museum Associate
Phil Sexton Executive Director

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All images are from the NLTHS collections unless otherwise noted.

Our Cover

It's a beautiful summer day at the Tahoe Tavern, just a few hundred yards south of the Lake Tahoe dam in the first decade of the 20th century, when Alice Richardson and her husband were in charge. Read more about this, OKAY!?

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Executive Director's Message

Hello everybody, and welcome to this fall issue of *The Gatekeeper's Gazette*.

I might as well admit up front that the reason we're so very late with this issue is me. I'm the new guy and there has just been so much to learn and do that I've let this issue slip. I'll do my darndest to ensure that I never get this far behind again on the *Gazette*.

Here's a little of my background. In my previous employment, I was a sector manager for California State Parks in Sacramento. I managed operations at the State Capitol Museum, Sutter's Fort, the State Indian Museum and the Leland Stanford Mansion. For several years before that, I was the Deputy Director of the CA State Railroad Museum and training coordinator for guides and interpreters. Prior to that I spent most of 31 years with the US Forest Service, including some time here in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

I also work with universities and groups interested in the railroad history of the Sierra, including the Summit tunnel at Donner Pass. One of the groups I'm working with is trying to nominate a portion of the Pass used in the 1860s by Chinese Railroad Workers as a National Historic Landmark.

I can't tell you how thrilled I am to be here in a place that I love, working with history that's important to California's early development but also crucial in understanding how the State and this area has developed and is so beloved by many people. I have a lot to learn so I'm really excited to meet more members and people who share an interest in the amazing history and culture of North Lake Tahoe.

Please feel free to stop by sometime to chat!

— Phil Sexton

Summer 2020 Is One for the Books

Phil Sexton

I began work at NLTHS in early May, just in time (during a normal year) for people up at the Lake to get ready for a busy summer season. But 2020 has been anything but a normal year for literally everyone, and I'm sure that your summer has also been unlike anything you've ever experienced. It's been a very odd summer at the Gatekeeper's Museum.

In addition to Covid closures and altering how we do business, there has been a major change to the finances for the NLTHS. For one thing, we no longer host weddings and large events on the grounds. This, combined with a closure basically for the entire summer (and no season at all for

the Watson Cabin,) meant that our income stream has been severely limited. No admission income, virtually no gift shop sales, no wedding income and no events. In August and September, much of California, including North Tahoe, was severely affected by persistent wildfire smoke, often quite hazardous.

But there are always bright spots. By not filling the Executive Director position until May, we had a significant salary savings. The Society applied for and received a PPP loan that may be forgiven, as well receiving as a \$10,000 grant from the Truckee-Tahoe Community Foundation, and we've been looking at ways to reduce our costs whenever possible. Perhaps the brightest outcome, however, has been the results of our May-June fundraising appeal. Your generosity has been amazing!

Thank you for your wonderful support!



Smokey Sunrise on September 4, 2020.

At First The Tavern Stumbled

The amazing story of Alice Richardson

Barbara Ann Burns with Carol A. Jensen

The year was 1903; the Wright brothers took their first flight, Henry Ford produced the Model A, and Duane L. Bliss opened the Tahoe Tavern. As a banking, timber and mining magnate, Bliss made money in the Gold Rush and the Comstock Lode. When timber was no longer needed after the gold and silver mines played out, it was Bliss' dream to turn his Lake Tahoe industrial world into a summer tourist destination. He had the tools, manpower, and money. The Tahoe Tavern would be his opulent, European style hotel, and would be known as the finest hotel between Denver and San Francisco.

Bliss was successful in many fields of business, and he was sure his first hotel would be a success as well. The location Bliss chose for his new venture was on the northwestern end of Lake Tahoe near the mouth of the Truckee River. It was remote, yet only a day's train trip from San Francisco, Denver, or Los Angeles to Truckee. It was then a mere 13 more miles on Bliss' narrow-gauge railroad to Tahoe City.

Duane's son, architect Walter D. Bliss, designed the Tahoe Tavern. It had telephones, telegraph, electricity, and steam heat. It had ballrooms, lakeside dining rooms decorated in wicker, and chandeliers made from elk horns. The building was beautiful, the advertising was extensive, yet Bliss' dream of a Lake Tahoe hotel was not an initial success. The hotel lost \$23,000 in his first 3 months in business. It seemed the success or

failure in the Tavern venture would depend on a change of management, and Bliss began looking at managers of the best hotels in the country.



The Glenwood Mission Inn, Riverside.

Frank and Alice Richardson of the Glenwood Mission Inn in Riverside, California were a particularly successful husband and wife management team who just opened its new, very successful Mission wing in 1903. Word in the hotel industry was that the Inn's success was due not just to the beautiful architecture and modern amenities, but the wonderful spirit of hospitality. That spirit was created by its owner and managers, Frank Miller, his sister, Alice Miller Richardson, and her husband, Frank Richardson. Bliss contacted the Richardsons about managing the Tahoe Tavern.

Bliss Finds Out The Richardsons Are Available For The Summer

Due to brutal summer heat, the Mission Inn's summer season was very slow. The Richardsons were known to undertake summer work, and Bliss' offer intrigued them, so they decided to take on managing the Tahoe Tavern during the summer. By April



Mrs. Alice Richardson.

The Tahoe Tavern.

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1904, the Richardsons and key players critical to the success of the Glenwood Mission Inn were on their way to rescue the luxurious, but struggling Tahoe Tavern.

Alice Turns The Tahoe Tavern Around

By the conclusion of the 1904 summer season, the Richardsons successfully delivered a profit of \$23,000 at the Tahoe Tavern. There was no doubt Alice Richardson's management and organization of moonlight excursions on the lake, card parties, horseback rides to picnics in the woods, fishing contests, photography classes,

over, Frank Richardson returned to the Mission Inn to recuperate, while Alice stayed on at Tahoe.

By September, Alice and her Tahoe staff were back at the Mission Inn to prepare for the busy winter season. But before departing Lake Tahoe, Alice promised that she and Frank Richardson would return to the Tahoe Tavern the following summer. She also convinced Bliss that business would be good enough to justify adding 80 more guest rooms, a bowling alley, a barbershop, and casino gaming rooms before next summer. On Alice's advice, Bliss began building.

After Three Years, Heartbreak

After 3 summers of great success at the Tavern, Frank Richardson died in September 1906. At age 46, married for 21 years, Alice Miller Richardson was now a widow.



The Dining Room

View from the dining room.

tally-ho parties, fresh trout served at every meal, the orchestra and brass band made the difference.

High Altitudes Bring Problems For Frank Richardson

The Richardsons expected even greater profits for the Tahoe Tavern during their first season in 1904, but Frank Richardson experienced heart problems at Tahoe's high elevation. The closest hospital was in San Francisco, and for many weeks Alice found herself away from her work in Tahoe caring for her ailing husband. Before the season was



Mr. Frank Richardson.

Despite her grief over losing her husband, she desperately wanted to continue the most exhilarating job she ever had and manage the Tahoe Tavern for the summer months. Alice was as proud of the Tahoe Tavern's success as its owner. As a widow, she worried that Bliss would not hire a woman alone to manage his hotel. Lucky for Alice, D. L. Bliss knew it was Alice Miller Richardson who brought success to the Tahoe Tavern. As Frank Miller told it, after Frank Richardson died, Bliss was, "very anxious to have her remain in charge. They offered Alice the same salary For the 1907 year as had been paid for both of them." Alice returned to the Tahoe Tavern the following summer with more enthusiasm than ever. *(continues on page 13)*



From Our Archivist Nancy Stromswold

The Museum lives to collect important historical area archive items. It is our goal to capture and preserve as much of our community history as possible, and we depend on our community to help us find these important historical artifacts. Our thanks to all donors!

Recently, **the Brown Family Trust** made an extensive donation of framed and unframed photos, books, documents, maps, and artifacts that include these objects.



16 original TAHOE TATTLER newspapers from July 11, 1881 (Vol. 1, No. 2) to September 7, 1881 (Vol. 1, No. 52).

Next in our list are 4 of 8 stereoscope cards in the donated collection. Identification on these cards include "Tahoe Landing, Lake Bigler, Cal.," "Tallac Point, Lake Bigler,;" "Shakespeare Rock, Glenn Brook, Lake Bigler, Nevada,;" "Reflections in Emerald Bay, Lake Bigler, Cal."



Stereoscope cards donated by the Brown family. Images include views of Tahoe Landing, Tallac Point, Shakespeare Rock, Glennbrook, and Emerald Bay.

Next, a dinner plate and dish from the Tahoe Tavern.



Here's a Tahoe Beer sign and bottles from Tahoe Beer, Carson Brewing Company. (No tasting please!)

Many thanks to the Brown family. Outstanding!



Mr. Peter Cunningham sent 29 photos of the English Villa in Homewood from the 1930 to 1960s that became the Lakewood Lodge. Peter's father, Fred Cunningham, took over the lodge in 1942.



Lakeside Lodge and English Village.



High snow in 1944. Fred Cunningham is on the roof.



Lakewood Lodge in 1942.

Many thanks to our donors!

Williamson Snopump

You might have heard that it occasionally snows here at the Lake! One of our local residents, **Jim Williamson** of Tahoe City, has loaned to the museum family photos, brochures, tools and machine parts used by his father **James W. Williamson**, the inventor of the WILLIAMSON SNOWPUMP, which brought light weight personal snow removal equipment to the common man. We're exhibiting these articles throughout the summer. Here are some of the items currently on display.



Why Isn't Lake Tahoe Lake Bigler?

Phil Sexton

You probably know that Lake Tahoe has been known by several names—Mountain Lake, Lake Bonpland, Fremont's Lake, Lake Bigler and today, Lake Tahoe. For about eighty years though, Lake Bigler was the official name for the body of water that we love so much. Here's why.

John Bigler was California's third Governor, serving from 1852 to 1856. Like nearly everyone in California in those days, Bigler was an immigrant, in Bigler's case, from Mt. Sterling Illinois. When he arrived in California, though trained as an Attorney, he chopped wood, worked as an auctioneer and even unloaded ships along the Sacramento waterfront. In 1849, he ran for the Legislature in California's first state election, representing part of Sacramento as a Democrat. Bigler was a skilled politician, and quickly gained power to become Speaker

of the Assembly in 1850. In 1851, he was elected Governor. While in office, he favored measures to protect the mining interests, claiming in a speech that they should be "left as free as the air we breathe." He advocated for "expeditions against the Indians" and also enacted a series of discriminatory measures against Chinese emigrants, reversing the position held by his predecessor, John McDougal. Governor Bigler was well liked in the mining districts and was distinctly pro-business and pro-development. So how did Governor Bigler's name become attached to the Lake?



Governor John Bigler.

According to an article by Robert Dean, published in *Sunset Magazine* in 1908, Governor Bigler accompanied an immigrant rescue party into the Sierra in 1852, arriving at what was then called "Mountain Lake." Though much of the trip was spent hunting and fishing at the Lake, the immigrants were in fact located and rescued, which Bigler happily took credit for.

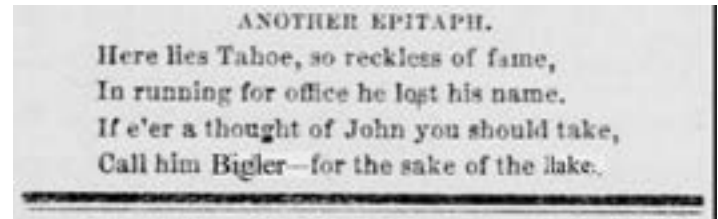
At a banquet in his honor in Hangtown (Placerville,) a suggestion was made to rename Mountain Lake "Lake Bigler," an idea eagerly accepted by the Governor and others. In 1853, California's Surveyor General began referring to this body of water as "Lake Bigler" and began using it on maps and documents.

For several years, this name gained some use, at least in California, but in 1862, Dean, who managed the Mountain House Resort at the Lake, felt that the name was an insult to the Union cause, since Bigler was a pro-slavery Southerner who favored the Confederacy.

Mr. Dean visited a Walker River tribal elder, Captain Jim, who told him of the traditional Washo name for the lake, "Tahoo," or "big water."

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Dean and his friends decided then and there to begin using the name "Tahoo" and he contacted some Republican newspapers to complain. On November 3 1863, the *Sacramento Daily Union*, which published a short piece in "News of the Day." Even stranger, due to a typo in the newspaper, what had been intended to be spelled "Tahoo" became "Tahoe" and remains so to this day.



Sacramento Daily Union, September 5, 1863. The Union was no fan of Mr. Bigler.

Another source gives credit to William Henry Knight, a cartographer for the US Department of Interior who mapped the area during the Comstock period. According to this source, a colleague of Knight's, Dr. Henry DeGroot, suggested Tahoe, a local tribal name that he believed meant "water in high place."

Even Mark Twain weighed in on the issue. An article in the July 3, 1938 *Tahoe Tattler* recounts a piece Twain wrote (as "Grub") and published in the *Territorial Enterprise* in 1863. Here is an excerpt:

I hope some bird will catch the Grub the next time he calls Lake Bigler by so disgustingly sick and silly a name as "Lake Tahoe." ...how am I to hear it applied to the enchanted mirror that the viewless spirits of the air make their toilets by, and hold my peace? "Tahoe" – it sounds as weak as soup for a sick infant. "Tahoe" be -- forgotten!...

Territorial Enterprise, September 13, 1863

Twain's hatred of the Tahoe name may stem from his well-known prejudice and antipathy toward Native Americans generally, and perhaps his sympathy for the Confederacy.

The controversy continued. In 1867, Democrats gained control of the California Legislature, and one of their top priorities was to express their support and respect for former Governor Bigler,

feeling that he had been insulted during the previous Republican administration. In 1870, they passed legislation formally naming "Lake Bigler."

But it was too late for the Bigler name to take hold. Robert Dean had already succeeded in having a Post Office at the Lake named "Tahoe" and encouraged lumbermen to name the new town on the North shore as "Tahoe City." Still, the name "Bigler" remained California's official name for the Lake, and it wasn't until 1945 that the State Legislature formally changed the name to the one we use today.

2020 Fundraising

Due to Covid shutdowns, changes in our income stream and other issues, this year has been challenging financially. Fortunately, our membership has really stepped up with a record amount of donations, plus new and renewed memberships. We are most grateful to the following people and organizations!

DONATIONS

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| • Tahoe City Marina/Jim Phelan | \$5,000.00 |
| • Tahoe Marina Lakefront Homeowner's Community Fund | \$1,200 |
| • Carol & Ned | \$500 |
| • Buzz & Joan Gibb | \$500 |
| • Elizabeth & Ralph Peer | \$250 |
| • Steve Paddock | \$250 |
| • Bruce & Mary Alice Carswell | \$200 |
| • Anne & George | \$200 |
| • Jacque Fabian-Brown | \$100 |
| • Myrle & Nancy Mooring | \$100 |
| • Thomas & Janice Boyce | \$100 |
| • El Dorado Savings/Katie Tsang | \$50 |
| • Anonymous | \$20 |

TOTAL \$8,470

Memorial Donations

- By Sue and Dave Devoe in memory of **Diana Larson**.
- By Sue and Dave Devoe in memory of **Robert J. Devoe**
- By Sue and Dave Devoe in memory of "**Scout**" **Devoe**

MEMBERSHIPS

Gold Circle \$1,000

- Perry & Cat Fox
- Jim & Marie Lawson
- Elise & Bill Kearney
- Gordon & Jeanie MacAulay

Silver Circle \$500

- Ralph & Antoinette deVere White
- John Jorgenson
- Rick Stafford
- Joelle & James Conn

Benefactor \$250

- Mike Faulstich
- William & Nancy Bittner
- Jim & Debora Carl
- Joyce Grunauer
- Sherry Duke
- Paul & Jane Foster
- Britt & Mary McConnell family
- Michele Finch
- Sandy Otellini
- Jean & Wayne Lowell
- Warren & Karen Wagner
- Tahoe City Marina
- Cindy & Tom Pearson
- Terry & Sue Stiffler
- Clint Waring
- Pomin's Tahoe Hot Tubs/Randy & Pammie Pomin
- Arnold & Mary Ellen Bruni
- Mike & Renee Child
- Sheila & Charles Matthews

Friend \$100

- Jim & Nancy Cline
- Louis & Miriam Biro
- John & Marilyn Dougery
- Robin Dworkin
- Harold Fick
- Doug & Corinne Cole
- Elaine & Pete Geffen
- Barbara & Stan Chaconas
- Terry & Carol Clapham
- Jan & Rick Ganong

- Bev Candrian
- Anne Donahoe
- Peter & Larissa Daniels
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- Bobbie Dolton
- Eddy & Osvaldo Ancinas
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- Ross & Vicki Robinson
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- Virginia Kessler
- Robert & Mary Hillick
- Martha Hughes
- Liz Nyberg
- Mary Shea
- David & Florence Stronck
- Nancy Hardesty
- Anne & Kyle Hoffman
- Muriel Harris
- James & Carol Stenderup
- Harry & Johnnie Lee Don
- Debra & Russell Kirschenbaum
- Dick & Louise Wiesner
- Thomas & Colleen Knopf
- Kay D. Fox
- David Swartz
- Winnie Smith
- El Dorado Savings/Katie Tsang
- Brian & Janis Dawson
- Walter Molz
- Fred & Sandy Zoerner
- Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Simmonds
- Roxanne Storm
- Lynn & Richard Kelson
- Susan F. Smith
- Michelle Schmitter
- Sara & Leonard LaFrance
- Kenneth & Margaret Wallace
- Bruce & Marilena Scott
- Mountain Town Walking Tours/
- Karen Willcuts
- Jim & Diana Long
- Denny & Ruth McLeod

- David Long
- Don & Linda Milanese
- Linda Brown
- Howard & Margaret Shambarger
- Jim Phelan
- Dianne & Rafe Miller family
- Mike & Lisa Menath
- Tahoe Dave's/
- Dave Wilderotter
- Vicki Kahn
- Ernie Grossman
- Judith Tornese & Jerry Winters
- William Callender
- Bonnie Symon
- Binth Rustad

Family\$50

- Robert DeNigris
- Jack & Marilyn Clifton
- Fred & Marice George
- Forrest & Alice Anderson
- James & Finette Carpenter
- Pam & John Eisele
- John & Nora Doolittle
- Donna Gallo
- Sherry Brockman
- Joanne Domingue
- Sharon Duncan
- Joan Caughell
- Diane & Douglas Cooper
- William & Gail Dawson
- Bill & Jeannette Abbott
- Livermore Family c/o Pauline Jeffers
- Peter & Tina Hodgson
- Paul N. Anderson
- Walter Fisher Jr.
- Rohit & Isabel De Souza
- Thomas & Kathleen Kelly
- John Adams & Catherine Jewett
- Pat Chappell
- Nancy McNair & family
- Dolores Macrae
- Erla & David Goller
- Ray & Kathy Holstead

- Ralph Coppola
- Peter & Pat McCoy
- David & Nancy Gottschall
- Daniel & Jo Ann Cobb
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- Jack & Mary Stirton
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- Tat Welcome
- Ray Tretheway
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- Jane & Joseph Lynch
- Donald & Sara Sweet
- R.Lewis & Vickie Van Blois
- Ginny Topol
- Ellen & Gil Magnani
- Dave & Jenny Antonucci
- Sybil Patten
- Daniel & Janis Tuerk
- Richard & Victoria Murphy
- Richard & Sandy Tomlinson
- Claudia Cate
- Jon & Ann Reynolds
- Robert & Sally Mullarkey
- Major General Anthony Jackson & Susan (Steinbach) Jackson
- David & Susan Hoefler
- Craig Beckstead
- Grace & Terry Welcome
- Richard & Patricia Carlson
- Bruce & Marian McNulty
- Charlene & Dale Smith
- Larry & Anise Burns
- Robert Stoldal
- Diana Joslin/Diana Joslin Whitworth

- Domenic & Joan Favero
- Kymberly & Jerry Pipkin
- Anne & George Wagner

Individual\$40

- Pat Castellucci
- Charlotte Farber
- Jerome Evans
- Ellen Killebrew
- Paul Groman
- Ann Healy
- Stephen Lind
- Carol Ann Jensen
- Jeanne Eber
- Gwyneth Ann Sheldon
- The Paper Trail/Judy Friedman
- Judy Luger
- Ralph Washburn
- Virginia Washburn
- Elinor Lindberg
- Kyle Kennedy
- Maureen Miller
- Patricia Stitch

(continued from page 7)

Alice Manages Two Important Hotels

This was Alice's normal life from 1904 through 1909. She lived and worked in the fall-winter-spring in Riverside at the Glenwood Mission Inn and summers at the Tahoe Tavern. In those six years, the Tahoe Tavern grew to accommodate 450 guests. By 1910, Alice had become notable in California society. When the San Francisco Chronicle listed people who were sailing from San Francisco to Honolulu "Mrs. Alice Miller Richardson, of Riverside and Lake Tahoe...one of the best known and most successful business women of California" was listed among them.

Riverside And A Life Well Lived

Alice's last summer at the Tahoe Tavern was 1909, but she continued to devote her life to managing the Glenwood Mission Inn. On August 23, 1938, Alice Miller Richardson passed away at the Mission Inn and is buried at Evergreen Cemetery in Riverside, California.

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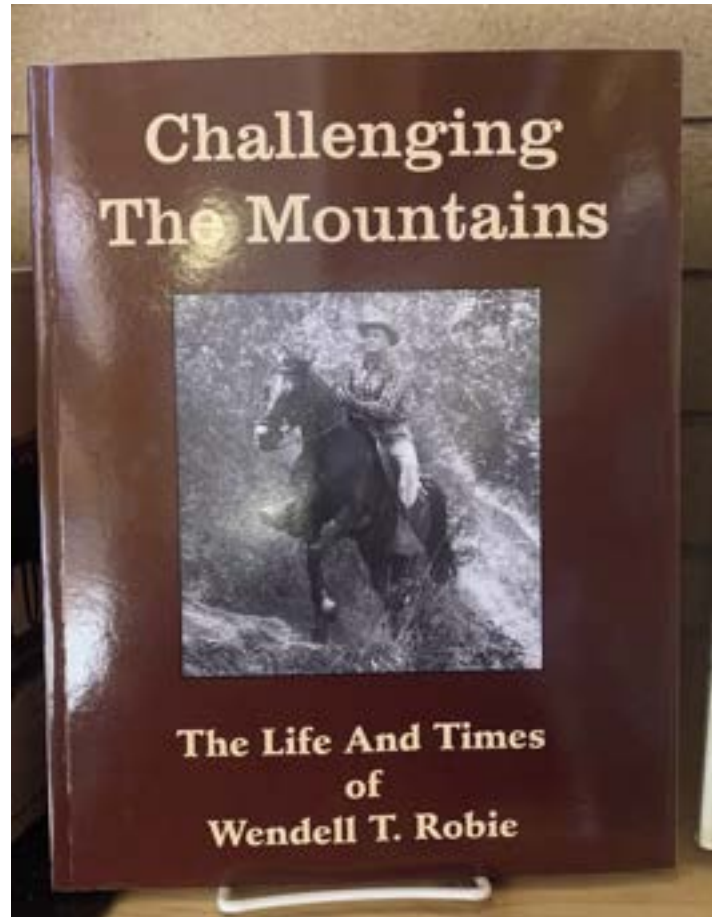
Alice was inseparably associated with D.L. Bliss in the successful development of the Tahoe Tavern.

While the deserted Tahoe Tavern partially burned in 1964 and was torn down later that year, the little Chapel of Transfiguration built during Alice's era still stands. Today, the Mission Inn Resort



Gift Shop

New Book:



Challenging the Mountains

The Life and Times of Wendell T. Robie
by Bill G. Wilson, \$24.95



Chapel of Transfiguration.

Hotel and Spa is one of the top 25 Historic Hotels in America, and Alice's rooftop suite (number 401) is still available for guests.

A new arrival in our gift shop, Challenging the Mountains—the Life and Times of Wendell Robie, is an in depth look at lumberman, banker, ski promoter and history buff Wendell Robie. Though perhaps not as well known as, say, Alex Cushing, Mr. Robie was instrumental in many things related to North Tahoe history and development in the mid-20th century.

Wendell was related to the Towle family, who ran sawmills in Dutch Flat and higher up, first

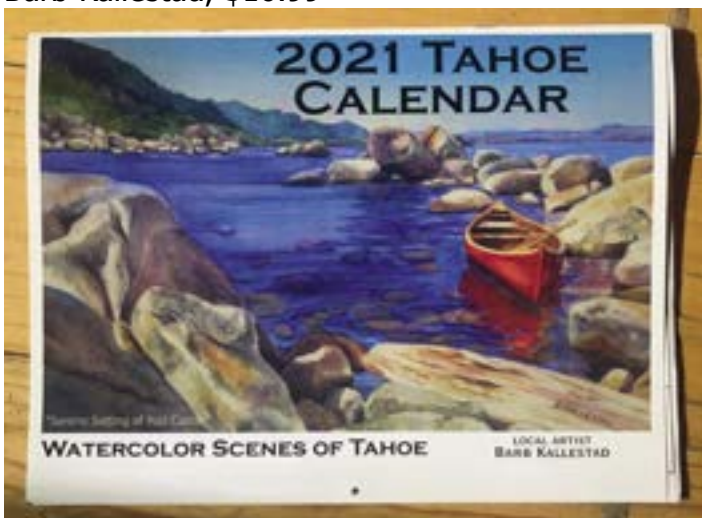
supplying lumber to gold mines and later the Central Pacific Railroad and ultimately retail trade in Placer County. In the 1920s, Wendell and his father operated the Auburn Lumber Company on High Street. During the Great Depression, he formed the Placer Savings Bank as a way to keep the lumberyard viable—the bank would offer home loans and materials for these homes would be sold by the Auburn Lumber Company.

In the 1930s, Wendell became intensely interested in the development of skiing and winter sports. He and the Auburn Ski Club hosted the 1932 National Ski Jump competition at the Auburn Ski Club at Cisco. He also participated in the development of Sugar Bowl, and when I-80 was built, Boreal Ski Area and the Western Ski Sport Museum. In 1955, Wendell and some friends began an annual horseback ride from the Tahoe City Post Office that ultimately became the Tevis Cup equestrian event and the Western States 100 ultramarathon.

Mr. Robie was definitely a type-A personality, and could be quite abrasive and even rude, but he did get things done. Even though this biography was published by the Robie Historical Foundation, it points out some of Wendell's faults and disagreeable nature as well as his passion and accomplishments. His influence and impact on this region is indisputable.

2021 Tahoe Calendar

Watercolor Scenes of Tahoe by Local Artist, Barb Kallestad, \$16.99



Just in time for both holiday gifting but also personal needs, because who doesn't need a calendar? We have a supply of the 2021 Watercolor Scenes of Lake Tahoe from local artist Barb Kallestad. With images for every month of the year, the year, there's a nice mix of landscapes and activities that will just make you feel good. Ms. Kallestad's beautiful pastel work brings a new dimension to both new and familiar scenes around the Lake.

Support NLTHS and the Gatekeeper's Museum Online

As a rule, we don't endorse any particular vendor or product, but did you know that when you make purchases from Amazon, you can also contribute to the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society, and most importantly, it won't cost you anything extra!



By using Amazon smile when you make your Amazon purchases, Amazon will set aside a tiny amount from most purchases to a non-profit organization that you designate. If you choose to support the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society through Amazon Smile, most purchases you make will also benefit the Gatekeeper's Museum. Here's how:

- Log on to [smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).
- Sign into your Amazon account with your email address and password.
- Choose your charitable donation. In the search box, type "North Lake Tahoe Historical Society" and select it. That's all there is to it!

Now when you shop on smile.Amazon.com (and from the app on your phone,) most items you buy will contribute to your Amazon Smile donation. Each contribution is a tiny amount, but it does add up, and you can support the NLTHS without any extra cost or effort on your part.

As always, thanks for your support!

Gatekeeper's MUSEUM

Home of North Lake Tahoe Historical Society
P.O. Box 6141 | Tahoe City, CA 96145

Can you identify this photo? If so, please contact Nancy@gatekeepersmuseum.org

