

North Lake Tahoe Historical Society

SPRING

NEWSLETTER

1995

Building Completed

The Edmund S. Barnett Building/Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum is now completed thanks to the efforts of Contractor, Syd Bartlett and Raymond Jones, representing the Building Committee.

Many sub-contractors have made significant deductions and donations, including: Concrete-Steve Neft; Rocks for building facia and tree walls-Jack Emerson; Masonry-Lou Biro; Grading-Larry Sevison; Underground water, lines, etc. -Steve Glazer; Insulation-Dale Freeman; Roofing-Shingles-Bill MacLean; Painting-Armin Jung; wood flooring-Jim Robins, Heating-Atlas Heating-Hugh Tuck; Plumbing-Dennis Hoffman; Security System-Security Lock & Alarm; Wall cabinet painting-Stephen Wilson; Electrical-Tahoe City Electric and Carpeting, Linoleum, window coverings-Tahoe Specialty Carpets.

Clean-up of the buildings, painting of the new pipes and renovation of the Gatekeeper's Museum would never have been completed without the help of Al and Jo Sperry, Don Davis and Lou and Miriam Biro. Cataloging the baskets, artifacts and research library is being done by Jeanne Davis, Kathy and John Betts, Betty Long and Miriam Biro. All items have been photographed by Lou Biro.

Opening Dates

The Gatekeeper's Museum will open May 1st and the Grand Opening and Dedication of the Edmund S. Barnett Building/Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum will be held on Saturday, June 24th. Look for your invitation in the mail and mark your calendars to celebrate with your fellow Society members.



Welcome New Members

Janice Hans
Shirley & Jack Jorgenson
Helen & Bill Lamm

Monna & Richard Leitner
Judith & Robert Olson
Alice Tulloch & Ray Echels

Recent Acquisitions

The photograph, post card, resort brochures collection of Gerald R. Johnson, Jr. is a major addition to our research library. This Lake Tahoe-Donner Lake-Reno-Virginia City-Carson City Collection includes 531 post-cards and 44 resort brochures. Donated by Mrs. Nancy Johnson & Family.

A mounted set of 15 bird points from Gertrude and Bill Hoffman

Oxen skull from John Fulton



The Watson Cabin Museum will open June 15th through September 3rd. A class for volunteers will be given to those interested in being hosts and hostesses this summer. Contact Betty Long at (916) 583-4488.

IN MEMORIAM

The North Lake Tahoe Historical Society says goodbye to two special members, Al Henry and Jerry Johnson.

Al Henry, age 76, died February 3rd, 1995. He was the Chief for the Tahoe City Fire Department for 35 years, following his father, Joe Henry, who was Tahoe City's first Fire Chief. Al and his wife Jean owned and operated the Tahoe City Garage for many years.

A native of Oakland, he was born June 11, 1919 to Albert McMullen Henry, Sr. and Marie Francesca Planett Henry. He was raised in Tahoe City and lived on the North Shore for 66 years after first coming to Tahoe at the age of six weeks, traveling by train to Truckee, taking the narrow gauge railway to Tahoe City and then boarding the Steamer Tahoe to arrive at his new home in Tahoma. Except for three years of service in World War II, as an airplane engine mechanic, he spent his entire life in Tahoe until his retirement to Clio, California nine years ago.

Al competed for the Lake Tahoe Ski Club, winning a number of state championships and was also a one-man ski team at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo. He was a longtime member of the California Fireman's Association and a member of the California-Nevada Snowmobile Association and loved snowmobiling. To Al's wife of 53 years, Dorothy 'Jean' Henry, his daughter, Karen Johnson, son-David Gary Henry, sister-Pat Fox and grandchildren, Deanna and Brand we send the sympathy of the members of the Society. Over the years Al donated many items from his fire department days, ski photos and magazines and other Lake Tahoe artifacts.

Gerald R. Johnson, Jr., age 69, died in January after a long illness. He was a summer resident of the West Shore for over 60 years and a dedicated member of the Historical Society, always bringing in new members and supporting our fund-raising efforts. In World War II, Jerry received the Combat Infantry Badge and the Purple Heart after being wounded in Germany. Jerry leaves his wife, Nancy, children Gerald, Mary and Jeffrey, sister Georgeann Beckett and brother, Bryte and three grandsons. Like Al Henry, Jerry had a great love for and interest in preserving Lake Tahoe History. He was also an active member of the Lake Tahoe Yacht Club and over the years won many prizes with his 1938 Chris Craft, the 'Mary Bryte'. The Johnson Family donated Jerry's collection of photos, postcards and brochures to the Society.

DONATIONS

In memory of Al Henry from: Miriam and Lou Biro; Rhoma Jane and Bill Sumner

In memory of Martin Spitsen from Marilyn and Bob Fugazi; Beccy Shontz

In memory of Edward B. Scott from Gwen and Dick Clarke

In memory of James Lewis from Fran and Bob Dobbins

In memory of Robert D. Larson from Barbara and Ray Jones

A special donation in honor of Bill Berelson's Birthday was received from Bobbi and Herb Wiltsek (for our Patio Fund)



MEMORIAL DONATIONS (cont.)

In memory of Gerald R. Johnson, Jr. from:

Ellie & Joe Babich	Willi & Hugo Lee
Bernie Bechdolt	Linda Lombardi
Mr. & Mrs. Don Benedict	Robin & Fritz Lund
Miriam & Louis Biro	Jeanie & Gordon MacAulay
Nancy & Bill Bittner	Martha & Thomas MacBride
Peter P. Bollinger	Martha B. MacLaughlin
Barbara & Bill Breuner	Marilyn McRae
Evelyn & John Butler	Laura Mering
Patty & Bob Butler	Bob, Carolyn & Katie Marshall
Mr. & Mrs. Fred E. Carnie	Nancy & Gerald Meyers
Merrilyn & John Carson	Gail & Dana Miller
Dorothy & Sam Cladianos	Royal Miller, Jr.
Gwen & Dick Clarke	Joeann D. Nelson
Richard E. Cohn	Jane & John Nichols
Sandra & John E. Cook, Jr.	Richard L. Niello, Sr.
Nancy & Bob Cunningham	Barbara & John Otto
William G. Demas	Dorothy & William Parker
Patricia & Ronald Derobertis	Kathryn & Jack Peterson & Family
Edie & Bob Dorian	Shirley & Forrest Plant
Margaret Farrell	Sophie & Perry Potiris
Donna & Martin Feletto	Elisabeth M. Raffetto
Jean & John Fiddymont	Evelyn Revitt
Naomi S. French	Mrs. Frank H. Reynolds, Jr.
Rene & Tom Grebitus	Vera Richardson
Patty Green	Joanna & Tom Sapunor
Greve, Clifford, Wengel & Paras	Margaret & Bob Shorrick
Nelda H.B. Hanson	Barbara & Thomas J. Simms
Ruth Ann & Bill Henderson	Burt & Earl Spaulding
Mrs. William Hibbitt	Mr. & Mrs. Hardin Stephens
Mary K. Huff	Kate Stillman & Vicki Diepenbrock
Dr. & Mrs. Edward Ishii	Catherine & Bill Taketa
Bobbie & Gordon Jack	Gerda H. Tappan
Carolyn J. Johnson	Shirley & Edward Towne
Charlotte & Cyrus Johnson	Kay & Howard Turner
Nancy Kehoe	Jeannette & Jack Vandenberg
Barbara & Doug Kennedy	Betty & George Vernatchi
Aileen Kious	Marilyn & Tom Wallner
Steven A. Lapkin	Horace Wulff
Marilyn & Jacob Larsen	Evelyn Yeates
Virginia & Bob Larson	Anne & Keith Young

Connie & John Zupan

The North Lake Tahoe Historical Society 'endowment fund' has been launched with a donation of \$1,000 from the Rotary Club of Tahoe City and a matching anonymous donation.

THE FEDERATED WOMENS CLUB OF TAHOE CITY, WHO PRESENTED LAST SUMMER'S "FAN FAIRE", A LUNCHEON AND FASHION SHOW AT GRANLIBAKKEN TO BENEFIT OUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL PRESENT "FAN FAIRE II" FOR OUR BENEFIT ON SATURDAY, JULY 1ST AT GRANLIBAKKEN. TICKETS WILL REMAIN AT \$20 AND RESERVATION FORMS WILL BE IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER. BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



North Lake Tahoe Historical Society

SUMMER

NEWSLETTER

1995

Marion Steinbach's Dream A Reality

The Dedication of the Edmund S. Barnett Building and Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum took place on Saturday, June 24, 1995. Hosted by the Board of Directors, over 250 guests enjoyed the event.

Co-President, Larry Lindsey, hosted the program. The Invocation was given by Father Leonard Shaheen of St. Nicholas Episcopalian Church, followed by Speakers: Edmund S. Barnett, Jr.; Cathy Steinbach Sage; JoAnne Martinez (representing the Washoe Tribe); and Robert Macomber, Superintendent of the State of California Parks & Recreation, Sierra Area District. After a plaque had been presented to Raymond Jones, honoring him for his work on the new building, Father Ambrose Wheeler of Corpus Christi Catholic Church gave the Benediction.

Immediately following the ceremony, refreshments and an Open House completed the event. Once again, the Charles I. Daniels, Jr. Family, owners of Redwood Vintners and Trellis wines, donated the wines and Torani syrups for the punches. Board members provided the Hors d'Oeuvres. We all missed Hank Steinbach, who is recovering from surgery and was unable to attend, was represented by his and Marion's daughter, Cathy Steinbach Sage, who came with her family all the way from Fairbanks, Alaska. The new addition is now on permanent display to the public.

Special thanks are due to the following members, who gave so much time and effort to completing the exhibits: Jeanne and Donovan Davis; Kathleen Betts; Jo and Al Sperry; Tat & Wayne Welcome and Miriam and Lou Biro; Betty Long, who is cataloging the Steinbach Research Library; Aleta Drake, who has been cleaning the baskets (a long and delicate process), and to Kathy Hoxsie, who spent a tremendous amount of time and talent on interviewing, writing, photographing and arranging publicity for the new museum with great results.

IF YOU HAVE ANY ARTICLES ABOUT THE MARION STEINBACH MUSEUM FROM SACRAMENTO AND BAY AREA NEWSPAPERS, WE WOULD LIKE TO GET COPIES FOR OUR FILES.

Now on display for the summer, in the Eva B. Buck Gallery of the new wing, are the original petroglyph drawings of John Betts; the beaded bottles by contemporary Washoe artist, Audrey George Fralinger, and the Hopi Kachina collection of Lloyd Chichester.

New permanent displays include the Edward B. Scott artifacts and photographs on the second level annex; original illustrations for David Stollery, II's 'Tales of Tahoe', drawn by his son, David Stollery, III. In the Ellen Attardi Library is the framed story of Captain Edmund Hunkin, who commanded the S.S. Meteor and S.S. Nevada before taking command of the S.S. Tahoe after Captain Pomin's death in 1919 and was her captain for the next 13 years until his death in 1932 for a total of 36 years of commanding Lake Tahoe steamships. The story was written and donated by Loring Hanson. China, crystal and silver from Lake Tahoe's historic resorts are now on view.

Welcome New Members

Kathleen & Don Allan
David Arnett & Janet Provencher
Ann & Ed Baehr
Theresa & Thomas Berry
Jill Beede
Ann & F. Alger Boyer
Leslie J. Brandt & Roxanne Kellam
Betty F. Connelly
Diane & Douglas Cooper
Joyce & Dick Cullen
Jane Fine
Eugene T. Gastanaga
Frances & Louis Gerhardy
Kathryn & Herb Greydanus
Joan & Buzz Gibb
Myron B. Hawkins

Martha & Thomas Hughes
Jackie & Dick Hunt
Suzanne & William James
Ana B. Koval
Karen Lang
Barbie & Ron Lichter
Lois & Cecil Mark
Eva & Adolf Rosenauer
Edward B. Scott, II & Deborah Ortman
Christine & John Sells
Carol & James Silverman
Nancy Tarnutzer
Ruth & George Thoukis
Nina & Buck Thys
Barbara & James Zeiler

Memorial Donations

In Memory of Georgeann Diggs Kraus from: Joyce E. Bartlett; Dick & Daphne Bertero; Peggy & John Cahill; Sarah & Bill Comstock; Clare (Mrs. Carl F.) Dailey; Cindy & Michael Fabian; Mary Gamble & Family; The Gott Family; Peggy & Dick Hartshorne; Mrs. William Hibbitt; Dolores Hogan; Bobbie & Gordon Jack; Carolyn Johnson; Char & Cy Johnson; Barbara & Gerald McCue; Nancy & George Montgomery; Ellen & Ned Purdom Family; Ann & Clark Sperry; Frances B. Stroud and Kay & Howard Turner

In Memory of Mae & Edward Nichols from Naomi Fisk

In Memory of Jerry Johnson from Muriel & Hugh Harris

In Memory of Charles Fortunato from the MacLaughlin Family (Martha, Tom, Virginia, Jim & Billy)

In Memory of Al Henry, Wayne Poulsen and Martin Spitsen from Ruth & Embree Cross

In Memory of Jerry Johnson, Bob Larson and Eleanor Elliott from Marjorie & Earl Marr

In Memory of Wayne Poulsen from Jim & Diane Fisher

In Memory of Dudley 'Rick' Richardson from Henry A. Steinbach

Special Donations

Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum from Virginia (Mrs. Edmund S.) Barnett; Mariam Barnett Sodergren, Edmund S. Barnett, Jr. & Cooper Barnett; Petey Walsh; and Marilyn Clifton

Heart Healthy Dinner Meeting from Bobbie & Bob Dolton

Endowment Fund

From Fran & Bob Dobbins



A Little History

Interviewed by Carol Van Etten in September, 1985, Alfred Maffly was the owner and former proprietor of 'Meadow Park Resort' on the west shore of Lake Tahoe. Mr. Maffly remembers Dr. Francis LeRoy Herrick.

Dr. Herrick was ambitious enough to find out that there was no hospital in Berkeley, and so he organized some doctors and he founded the Berkeley General Hospital, which subsequently was named after him: Herrick Hospital. And so he was a pioneer in many ways. A very big fellow - probably weighed 250 pounds, and he was six foot two or three - a very big fellow, and dynamic. A real leader. That he would go to medical school without going to college was a real accomplishment, and to go from a pick-and-shovel miner to medical school - and to start a hospital - was quite an accomplishment, I think. He was a very ambitious man - very pioneering kind of a fellow. He was very interested in mines - he bought a lot of mining stock, all of which seemed to prove valueless. But he loved mines, because of the experience in the mines here in California and also in Johannesburg.

Someone told him he could make a fortune on pelts. At that time, fox furs were very popular with the women. They'd go around your neck, you know. And he bought ten foxes at a thousand dollars apiece and started a fox farm back here, back in Meeks Creek. And so he bought 200 acres from the Murphys. The Murphys had bought all this land from Mr. Bliss. Bliss was the one who owned the mill across the lake, and he supplied the lumber for the silver mines in Virginia City. He'd cut the trees here and raft them across the lake here and pull them over the mountain with a little train he had. He scooped them down on chutes into the valley and picked them up on another train and took them up to Virginia City. All this area here was deforested. So there were two fellows here, two brothers - the Murphy brothers, who were farming cattle here. They were very anxious to buy this land, but Bliss beat them out - he offered so much more. He said he'd sell it back to the Murphy boys when he got the lumber off, and he'd charge them no more than the \$250 that he paid for it, which he did. So the two Murphy boys bought all this land around here, and their houses still stand over here on the north side of the creek. There are two houses there - you may have noticed them. Next to the log cabin, I see the name Reynolds on it and that is one of the grandson people. Somebody else. Kehlet came along in about 1920 and camped around here, and he bought six or seven hundred acres north of the creek, which he developed into this Meeks Bay Resort. And in about 1924, Dr. Herrick came along, and at that time he was interested in finding a place to raise his foxes, and so he bought the land south of the creek.

How many acres did that entail?

About 200. The unfortunate thing was that he knew a lot about medicine, he was a great organizer, but he didn't know that there was a very heavy snow here. He built fences. He cleared a big place which is now the dump back here. He cleared that area of trees and put up a wire fence and, by golly, you know that the snow came up higher and higher and every single fox jumped the fence and ran away. His fortune was lost over-night. He learned something about foxes, but never really learned about things not medical.

(note: our longtime member, Alfred Maffly died last year.)



Be A Watson Cabin Volunteer

The Watson Cabin Living Museum is open from 12 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily until Labor Day. The visitor will enjoy magnificent views of Lake Tahoe while seeing how a pioneer family lived in the early part of the 20th century, as the log cabin was built in 1909 by Robert Montgomery Watson and his son, Bob, as a honeymoon cottage for Bob and his bride, Stella.

Curator, Betty Long, and her dedicated volunteers: Betty LaRue; Cathleen Peel; Ruth Holt; Beverly Watson; Helen Ford; Marge Bartlett and Jan Edmonson, would love to have more volunteer help to be sure that the museum is open everyday - it now has to close some days when no volunteer is available. Please call Betty Long (916-583-8717/583-4488) if you can give your help to be a host or hostess at the cabin one afternoon a week.

It is fun and a great way to learn more of our history, represent our Historical Society and North Lake Tahoe to our visitors, and meet people from all over the world.

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Reno Air travel & 'Thunderbird' cruise raffle Grand Prizes

Grand prizes for our fund-raising raffle are:

1. A round-trip ticket for two from Reno Air to any West Coast destination from Vancouver to Tucson, etc. This trip compliments of Reno Air and Lake Tahoe Travel.



2. A one hour cruise on the fabulous Thunderbird for the winner and 15 guests, donated by Joan and Buzz Gibb

There are many more prizes including stays at Caesars Tahoe, Harvey's Lake Tahoe, the Tahoe Biltmore, dinners at Lake Tahoe's finest restaurants and many prizes to make winning a delight.

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and are available at the Gatekeeper's Museum and at our Dinner & Dixieland party on July 16th. The drawing will take place on August 17th - winners need not be present.

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NLTHS Will Host Tibetan Lamas

Don't miss the 'Sacred Sand Painting' by Tibetan Lamas from September 13th to 18th at the Eva Buck Gallery in the Gatekeeper's Museum. The Mandala Ceremony will be performed on September 18th at 7:00 P.M.

The monks are from the Drepung Losling Monastery and are on a world tour. Their sand painting is presented by Arts for the Schools.

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New in our gift shops are the Complete Guide to Tahoe; Tree Adventures at Tahoe and a video of Emerald Bay produced by the State Parks Foundation. Back in stock are: Trail of the First Wagons Over the Sierra Nevada; Patty Reed's Doll; History of the Donner Party and Ordeal by Hunger. Two new posters: S.S. Tahoe at Tallac and California Indian Tribes.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
SUMMER, 1995

- SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH DEDICATION AND OPEN HOUSE OF THE EDMUND S. BARNETT BUILDING AND THE MARION STEINBACH INDIAN BASKET MUSEUM - CEREMONY 2:00 P.M. OPEN HOUSE 2:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
- SATURDAY, JULY 1ST FAN FLAIRE II - LUNCHEON & FASHION SHOW AT GRANLIBAKKEN RESORT, PRESENTED BY THE FEDERATED WOMENS CLUB OF TAHOE CITY WITH 50% OF THE PROCEEDS TO BE DONATED TO THE N.L.T. HISTORICAL SOCIETY. TICKETS: \$20.00 PER PERSON
- SUNDAY, JULY 16TH ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING FOLLOWED BY 'DINNER & DIXIELAND' MEETING 3:30 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M. PARTY FROM 4:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. TICKETS: \$25.00 PER PERSON BY RESERVATION ONLY.
- SATURDAY, JULY 22ND & WEDNESDAY, JULY 26TH PINE NEEDLE BASKET WEAVING CLASSES, FROM 9:30 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. EACH DAY. BEGINNING AND INTERMEDIATE - COST PER STUDENT PER DAY: \$20, INCLUDES ALL WEAVING SUPPLIES. INSTRUCTORS: BETTY & PEGGY LONG.
- THURSDAY, AUGUST 17TH ANNUAL HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. WITH SPECIAL WINE & CHEESE TASTING (PRESENTED BY REDWOOD VINTNERS) AND HOMES TO TOUR FROM CEDAR FLAT TO CRYSTAL BAY. TICKETS: \$30.00 PER PERSON/RESERVATIONS ONLY.
- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH SECOND ANNUAL 'TAHOE GAL' DINNER CRUISE DONATED BY NORTH TAHOE CRUISES. SPACE LIMITED TO 100 GUESTS. TICKETS: \$40.00 PER PERSON.

OUR ANNUAL RAFFLE'S GRAND PRIZE WILL BE A CRUISE ON THE FABULOUS 'THUNDERBIRD' AND YOU MAY BRING 19 OF YOUR FRIENDS. THE 65' STAINLESS STEEL AND MAHOGANY ART DECO BOAT WAS BUILT FOR GEORGE WHITTELL IN 1939 AND IS NOW OWNED BY JOAN AND BUZZ GIBB. OTHER PRIZES INCLUDE DINNERS, HOTELS, CRUISES, SKIING AND MUCH MORE. THE DRAWING WILL BE HELD AT THE HOUSE TOUR ON AUGUST 17TH AT 4:30 P.M.

SPACE IS LIMITED AT ALL OF OUR EVENTS AND OUR MEMBERS HAVE A FOUR WEEK PERIOD TO MAKE RESERVATIONS BEFORE THOSE ON OUR MAILING LIST HAVE THEIR ANNOUNCEMENTS, SO DON'T DELAY - MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!

Here's How John Muir Viewed Tahoe

Trees Partially Cut Away, But 'Best Timber Still Standing'

Not many of Tahoe of today's residents or visitors knew the lake when it was an undeveloped mountain wilderness. Fewer packed through it in those old days—days when the old side-wheeler Gov. Stanford reigned supreme on the lake and enterprising loggers were busy clearing Tahoe mountainsides bare of marketable timber.

One who did was John Muir, inveterate Sierra lover and naturalist. Tahoe beautiful, then as now, inspired. Muir described the Tahoe scene as he camped round the lake with Botanist Charles Parry in early summer of 1858 in "The Unpublished Journals of John Muir," recently posthumously brought out:

Along the Truckee River Late June, 1858

"The road from Truckee is dusty, the ground strewn with fallen burned trunks or tops of trees felled for lumber, but the freshness of the young trees springing up and the chaparral and the beautiful river in sight redeem the view from all the destructive action of man.

"A warbler was singing on a nest in a cottonwood close to the road. Going down to the river, I heard the singing bird and searched for him. Found him on the nest, where he seemed to court attention rather than to seek concealment.

Lake Tahoe

"Wild rose abounds, and strawberry, spruce, alder, all pines, are but little touched as yet by the ax. *Libocedrus* grows to a large size, reaching its greatest perfection along the west shores of the lake, on a gravel beach. I saw one a hundred and sixty feet long, five feet in diameter four feet above ground, 580 years old."

Muir's first camp was north of Rubicon point on June 30, where he described snowy mountains in the background, heavily timbered, although best wood was cut. A large cedar standing in front of the naturalist's bedroom on the lakeshore impressed him. "The flash and roar of waves on the shores begins suddenly, a hundred voices stirred by wind in the forest. Jays, ducks, gulls, yellow bunnets . . . a lovely calm evening."

Emerald Bay (Second Camp) July 1

"Arrived at Kirby's, 10 a. m. Talked with Mr. and Mrs. Kirby, both kind and intelligent. A charming

lowland cañon. A fine tangled canyon above, watered by Cascade Creek brawling among the rocks. Ferns, *Albosorus*, *Pellaea*, *Chellanthus*, dogwood, alder, willows, *Menziesia*, *Penstemon Confertus*, *Spiraea*, *Pyrola*, lilies very abundant—the white and small tiger.

"Emerald Bay is about two miles long. Its mouth is nearly closed by a terminal moraine; the sides are formed by lateral moraines. The left lateral is very striking, well formed, three or four hundred feet high where it joins the shoulder of the mountain, timbered with pine and spruce sparsely on the grayish slopes.

"As we look from the head of Emerald Bay the distant mountains are blue and the lake is blue with exactly the same tone, and the yellow summer sky is like the glow of the desert beyond the mountain rim.

"The trees—slender pines and firs—are firmly re-imbued and inverted in the mirror blue of the bay. In the foreground a strip of meadow, reddened with castilleja and fringed with willows, is reflected with fine effect. Also the shore of washed granite sand, and the one island, a hundred feet high and a half-mile in circumference, adorned with pines and bossed with chaparral.

Cascade Lake

"Snowy mountains and a fall and a grand glacier basin, and well timbered lateral moraines, make a fine setting for Cascade Lake. I saw a duck with her young sailing and running on the lake, a fine wild happy sight. Also young robins and young grouse. . . . Landed at Dr. Brigham's cottage, bark covered, with wide verandahs. Flakes of bark on the sides in handsome patterns . . . very tastefully rustic.

Third Camp, July 2

"We camped at the southeast end of the lake and made a grand fire. The sage was beautiful in the firelight. Grand tea and potatoes—the pomp of kings ridiculous.

"I landed in a rocky cove three miles from camp at 8 a. m. to write these notes and rest and botanize. Ducks are here and a small *Tamias* with a voice like a robin. Saw a blackbird feeding its young down on the shore this morning. The sunrise lovely. Calm, hushed. Yellow amber light touching the mountains of the western shore, tinting the purple lake yellow.

"We set out towards Glenbrook at 10 a. m., sailing along the rugged

Sierra Naturalist Liked Tahoe Wild Life, Scenery

and long rocky points weathered into islets and single stones. Saw a brown-headed duck with young making frantic calls to her brood to make haste for fear of us. She led them along the shore, half running, half swimming, making fast time; then holding their heads low they glided among the boulders and hid until we passed. Saw another flock of ducks, nearly grown, that could barely fly. They flew a few rods, then made haste out into the lake, running and wing-beating a mile or more without taking rest.

"A heavy swell arose, making rowing difficult, though no wind was on this side. Parry nearly fell overboard backwards. We landed at 3 p. m. and camped beneath a large yellow pine a few feet above the low-water mark on a sandy beach, two miles from Glenbrook.

Fourth Camp, July 4

"We had a rough cobble bed, but slept well nevertheless. Rose at 4 a. m., got breakfast—a stew of rice, beef and devilled tongue—and set sail at 5:45 for Glenbrook to get provisions—milk, meat, etc. . . .

Five Miles North of Glenbrook Noon Camp

"Most of the stores are closed. No meat; got milk, which soured. Mill hands are dawdling in their best clothes, with dull, semi-holiday gestures of men accustomed to routine hard work evidently not at ease, and not enjoying rest or idleness as they think they should.

"Saw a camp of Washoe Indians. They came up to see the Fourth festivities. Women in gay calicoes—with white perfect teeth. Fat and careless—some went fishing.

"We set sail with chocolate and sardines and sour milk added to our stores. Marvellous reflection in calm mirror waters, of trees and rocks flapping and wallowing yet distinct in the swells raised by our oars. Color pale emerald—from water and from sky.

"The lake was calm until towards evening. In sailing across the mouth of Crystal Bay we met a heavy swell. Found a fine safe quiet spot on the west shore of Crystal Bay. Just enough of sand to sleep on between boulders. Had a good fire and a good bed of dwarf oak."

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† Houghton Mifflin, 1934.
‡ Old gold road.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL

NEWSLETTER

1995

Climb the mountains and get their good tidings.
Nature's peace will flow into you.
The winds will blow their freshness
And the storms their energy into you,
While cares will drop off like autumn leaves.

John Muir
1909

Rosemary & Larry Lindsey

As we send this Fall newsletter to you, we wish to give special thanks to our out-going co-presidents, Rosemary and Larry Lindsey. For the past three years, they have not only headed the NLTHS, but also the Edmund S. Barnett Building/Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum project from the planning stages through the Dedication and Opening. Their combined efforts contributed enormously to the preservation of this magnificent basket collection; to the success of our fund-raising events; leadership of the Board and as representatives of the NLTHS to the Lake Tahoe community.

Board Officers & Members

The new Board of Directors' officers will begin their one year term of office on October 1, 1995, and they are:

Co-Presidents: Jeanne & Donovan Davis
Co-Vice-Presidents: Jo & Al Sperry
Treasurer: Earl Marr (incumbent)
Secretary: Kathy Tavernier (incumbent)

The new Board Members will take office on October 1, 1995, for a two-year term of office, and they are: Marge & Syd Bartlett, Anne Shipley Carlstedt & Kurt Carlstedt, Joe Drury, Jan & George Edmondson, Leonard Frierman, Hugh Harris, Diana Larson, Lois Linn and Lloyd & June Swenson.

Returning Board Members are: Karen McBride-Aguirre & Fil Aguirre, Bernie Bechdolt, Pat & Bob Bernard, Jimalu Gott Davis & Gary Davis, Bob Dobbins, Bobbie & Bob Dolton, Steven M. Glazer, Yovana & Dan Gutowsky, Dorothy Intorf, Carolyn Johnson, Barbara & Ray Jones, Sarah Malin, Monica Mary March, Gloria & Bud Novack, Beccy Shontz, Catherine & Wayne Welcome, Founder & Past President - Betty Layton, Board Attorney - Randall M. Faccinto, Oral History Advisor - Carol Van Etten. Museums Director - Miriam Biro, Curator Watson Cabin - Betty Long and part time Curator - Gatekeeper's/Steinbach Museum - Kathleen Betts.

Marjorie Marr

The most dependable volunteer ever just has to be Marjorie Marr, who, for thirteen years, has been the host volunteer at the Gatekeeper's Museum one day a week each summer season or you could say she has donated over 1200 hours to the Society. Thanks, Marjorie - you are special!

Recent Acquisitions

Recent acquisitions include a 1933 'Joe Henry's Garage' calendar and 'Snookum's apples wooden crate the 'Tahoe Mercantile Company' donated by Pat Henry Fox; an LTR & Transportation Company Invoice machine from 1914 donated by Mary Anna Connors; andirons and a large 48-star American flag

House Tour Sell Out Success

Once again, the annual House & Garden Tour was a sellout success. Everyone enjoyed the lovely homes of Mollie & Bruce Olson; Sharon & Michael Cowley; Diane Shontz & Ralph Miller; Carol & Charles Finn and Christine Scharff-Sells and John Sells. The day was beautiful and weather perfect for the tour and the wine and cheese tasting held on the manicured grounds of the Scharff-Sells homes. Once more, the Charles I. Daniels, Jr. Family, owners of Redwood Vintners, presented the wine tasting from the following wineries: Trellis; Vinyards Guenoc; Ferrari-Carano; Granite Springs and Alderbrook and last, but not least, Torani Italian Syrups were mixed with soda for a rainbow of delicious non-alcoholic drinks.

DUE TO THE DEMAND FOR RESERVATIONS TO OUR ANNUAL TOUR BY OUR SOCIETY MEMBERS, STARTING NEXT YEAR, WE WILL NOT BE SENDING OUR USUAL INVITATIONS TO A MAILING LIST. IT HAS NOW BECOME A MEMBERS-ONLY EVENT BECAUSE OF LIMITED SPACE AND AN EVER INCREASING DEMAND BY OUR GROWING MEMBERSHIP ROSTER. RESERVATION FORMS WILL BE INCLUDED IN OUR SPRING NEWSLETTER AND FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE.

And the winners are -

The Raffle drawing was held on August 17th and following is our winners list:

Hair cut by 'Hot Looks by Colleen'	winner: Leonard Frierman
Freeze-dried floral spray from 'A Rose is a Rose' at Tahoe Tree Company	winner: Ginny Rei
Sterling silver pine cone earrings from 'Emeralds Plus' in the Boat Works:	winner: Diane Fisher
Two rounds golf from Tahoe City Golf Course	winner: Karin Heimbucher
Free lube, oil & filter from Tahoe City Chevron	winner: Elizabeth Bittner
One hour jet ski rental at North Tahoe Marina, Tahoe Vista	winner: Gena Brix
Embroidered sweat shirt from Kathleen Tavernier	winner: Jim Porter
Lunch for two at 'Sunsets on teh Lake'	winner: Julie Molloy
Dinner for two at Hacienda del Lago in the Boat Works Mall	winner: Ann & Don Terrell
\$30 gift certificate for dinner at the Tahoe House	winner: Liz Silverman
Fishing Charter and bottle of wine from 'Mickey's Big Mack Charters'	winner: Peggy & James Long
'Lake Tahoe Photo Essay' book from 'The Store in Tahoe City	winner: Toni Smith
Five snow play passes & saucer rentals from Granlibakken	winner: Free Clark
Five snow play passes & saucer rentals from Granlibakken	winner: M & J Fullerton
\$45 gift certificate for dinner for two at Swiss Lakewood Restaurant	winner: Edythe Miller
Jewelry set of matching necklace & earrings from Jeanne Davis	winner: Vernon Gross
Jewelry set of matching necklace & earrings from Jeanne Davis	winner: Lani & Gardner Mein
Luncheon for four from 'Jakes on the Lake'	winner: Bobbi Wiltsek

continued next page

list of raffle winners continued

Dinner for two at 'Graham's at Squaw Valley from Graham Rock	winner: Kathleen Tavernier
One case of wine (donor anonymous)	winner: Kamin Hecox
One case of wine (donor anonymous)	winner: Christine Scharff-Sells
One case of wine (donor anonymous)	winner: Liz Simmonds
Two hours of electrical design, consultation or labor from Tahoe City Electric	winner: Leo Winters
Twenty homegrown perennials from the Tahoe Tree Company	winner: Mary Huff
One two night/three day vacation at the Tahoe Biltmore, Crystal Bay, NV	winner: Winnie Smith
Gourmet gift basket from Tat Welcome	winner: Birge Clark
Dinner for two at the Steak & Lobster House at the Crystal Bay Club, including appetizers, desserts, bottle of wine, four bar drinks, etc.	winner: Corene Adams
Mixed case of 'Sterling Wine', value \$180 from the Gott Family	winner: Judge Thomas MacBride
One night/two day vacation at Caesar's Tahoe	winner: Embree Cross-Truckee-Tahoe Lumber Company
One night/two day vacation at Harvey's Lake Tahoe	winner: Joanne Nunes
Two nights/three day vacation with two breakfasts, one dinner for two in the Forest Buffet and a show in the South Shore Room Harrah's Lake Tahoe	winner: Anne Penniman
Two round trip tickets on 'Reno Air' to any west coast destination that Reno Air flies. Compliments of Reno Air and Lake Tahoe Travel in the Cobblestone Mall	winner: Dee Geyer
One hour cruise with fifteen friends on the one and only, fabulous and famous 'Thunderbird' donated by the owners, Joan & Buzz Gibb	winner: Gwendolyn Cheesewright

Thank you to each and every donor of the wonderful prizes for our raffle and for making this the most successful raffle ever.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE COLLECTORS PLEASE HELP US. THE NEW MARION STEINBACH INDIAN BASKET MUSEUM FEATURES AN OUTSTANDING MAP: "INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA" FROM THE DECEMBER, 1972 ISSUE, VOL. 142, PAGE 739A, NO. 6. WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE AS MANY COPIES AS POSSIBLE AS RESEARCH MATERIALS.

Please send to NLTHS, Box 6141, Tahoe City, CA 96145 or call (916) 583-1762/583-4976

There is a fine main feature article by Kathy Hoxsie about our museum, titled 'Paying Homage to Art: Expanding the Gatekeeper's Museum' in the October 'Sierra Heritage' magazine, now on sale throughout Placer County.

Would you help?

We are purchasing a new computer package which will enable us to convert our hand-kept records of membership, mailing lists, accounting and museum cataloging. Along with this system, we will be purchasing a laser printer and would like to buy a plain paper fax machine. If any of our members would like to donate funds towards this much overdue need, we could use all the help possible. Please contact Miriam at (916) 583-1762/583-4976 or send donation to: NLTHS, Box 6141, Tahoe City, CA 96145.

from the Tahoe Tavern donated by the Bokinskie and Brisco Families; and Squaw Valley Resort china donated by Jane Edginton. We also have on display a trophy won by Captain Joe Pomin with his motor launch 'Happy Days' in 1914 on loan from Dick Pomin.



Welcome New Members

Adriante & Leslie Bandar
Sue & Steve Betts
Carol Bokinskie & Jan Brisco
Leslie J. Brandt & Roxanne Kellam
Lea & Sven Brolund
Joan & Russell Bruzzone
Anne Shipley Carlstedt & Kurt Carlstedt
Joan & Bob Clark
Linda & John Clayton
Nancy Collins & Gregg States
Donna Couberly
Sharon & Michael Cowley
Laurie Mae Crueger
Nadine Donner & Victoria Powers
Lynda & Charles Dunbar
Sharon & William Duncan
Mickey Fausett
Joan & Domenic Favero
Carol & Lloyd Ferguson
Jane & Fred Fine
Virginia R. Furth
Jeri & Don Grabb
Mary & Don Huff, Jr.
Donna & Wayne Hull

Wiggie & Alan Hyman
Carol F. Jung
Elizabeth A. Jung
Toni & Dick Lowden
Marge & Dick Luippold
Saralee & Robert Millslagle
Melissa & Chaco Mohler
Nileta & Dick Morton
Lois & Bill Orr
Shirley B. Priess
Joan & Wilhelm Schaeffler
Margaret & Paul Schmidt
Jane C. Scott
Salina & William Sherlock
Bethia W. Smith
Louisa & Al Smith
Dottie & John Stechman
Vicki Stinson
Marilyn & Fritz Strain
Janet & Willis Swan
Elizabeth Takahashi &
Jesus Rodriguez
Carol Joy Trapier
Ellen & Richard Whitmore

Endowment Fund Donors

Carol & Ned Spieker and Perce L. Fleming

Donors

In memory of Georgeann Kraus from: Elsie M. Fabian, Annette & Fred Gellert, Jr., Jaque Brown, James & Susan McClatchy, Mrs. Stanley B. Gerdes, the Joseph F. Enos family, the MacLaughlin Family, Maria C. Gardner, the Ed Grebitus Family, Liz & Les Simmonds, Noreen & Jim Raney, Diane & Jack Anderson, and Marian D. Fitzgerald.

In memory of Julian Gorski from Lucy Mayhood

In memory of Helen Rogers Long from Betty & Ned Long, her brother-in-law and his wife

In loving memory of her dad, David B. Berelson, on his birthday from Bobbi Wiltsek

In memory of Wayne Poulsen from Gwen & Bob Cheesewright

In memory of Jerry Johnson from Beth & Ed Grebitus

In memory of George Lebto from Marjorie & Earl Marr

Special Donation from Tom & Peggy Veith

For the Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum from Mary Ann & Bert Tonkin, the Federated Womens Club of Tahoe City, Patricia Scott, Helen & Dick Ford, Elinor J. Boulger, Christine & Robert Feibusch, Carol & Ned Spieker and Perce L. Fleming and a donation of two pedestal cabinets from Monica M. March in memory of her grandmother, Georga Adella Reed and her uncle, Richard Randolph Reed.

A Little History -

THE THUNDERBIRD

(excerpts of a Tahoe World article by Carol Van Etten on July 12/1990)

During its forty seasons of operation, the morning train from Truckee never failed to increase the level of activity among Tahoe City's residents and visitors. Passengers and parcels in transit spoke of exciting good times and news from the outside world, and the gathering on the station platform was always well attended.

On the morning of July 14, 1940, however, the crowd of bystanders was even larger than usual, growing quickly as word of the train's special passenger spread through the town. So grand was this new arrival that one car was reserved exclusively for her journey, and now she had reached her destination - the Tahoe Boat Company, where she would make her debut on the brilliant blue waters of Lake Tahoe.

The assemblage watched in awe as the rail car, graced by the newcomer's splendid rare profile, was uncoupled from the train and guided onto the Boat Company ways. Speculation ran rampant among the onlookers, yet the lady seemed oblivious to the many trivial and uninformed comments on all sides. "She looks fast!" someone was heard to remark. "I'll say!" volunteered another. "And proud!" Fast and proud she was indeed, and so she remains today, the queen of Lake Tahoe's growing fleet of wooden watercraft.

She turned fifty five years old on July 12, 1995, and she remains an object of grandeur to be marvelled at by awestruck crowds, for her beauty is of the timeless variety which age has only enhanced. She is the Thunderbird, 55 feet of elegantly arranged mahogany and stainless steel designed by noted marine architect, John Hacker and launched from the Tahoe Boat Company ways at six o'clock on the summer morning.

Only a handful of spectators were present in the grey light of that early morning to witness the historic event, but that was just the way her owner, "Captain" George Whittell, wanted it. As eccentric and mysterious as he was wealthy, Whittell was enamored by the idea of having the fastest and most beautiful speedboat on Lake Tahoe. And so, in 1939, he commissioned Hacker to create what amounted to a high speed, gloriously oversized runabout hull incorporating an enclosed cabin for the comfort of his guests.

It was this same Whittell, a summer resident of Tahoe's East Shore who owned 18 miles of it's lakeshore, who had a rock boathouse constructed to berth the craft, with a connecting passageway 500 feet long from there to his residence, assuring total privacy enroute.

And then there was the man's predilection for animals: lions, tigers, elephants and giraffes. They would be flown to the lake from Whittell's Spring Valley Lakes estate near Woodside, to spend the summer at 'Thunderbird Lodge'.

During the more than two decades of Whittell's ownership, the Thunderbird's appearances on the Lake were infrequent, and sightings took on the quality of a dream. Hacker's design was indeed the stuff of which dreams are made - probably the most outstanding example of art deco ever applied to marine purposes.

Countless individuals would have loved to own the boat, but it was Bill Harrah of Nevada gaming fame who, in 1962, purchased her from Whittell's estate. Originally equipped with two 550 hp Kermath engines, the boat was repowered by Harrah with twin 1000 hp Allison aircraft conversions, allowing an incredible top speed of 70 miles per hour at sea level. Under Harrah's direction, a flying bridge was added and the interior was also redesigned to include a stainless steel galley.

Harrah died in 1978, and his unique marine toy was purchased by Owen Owens, who never had the opportunity to enjoy the new possession before he, too, died in 1979. Following Owens' death, the Thunderbird was purchased by Joan and Buzz Gibb, who had her completely refurbished.

The wonderful boat became a familiar sight on Lake Tahoe, but during the severe drought of the past few years, she was removed to storage. With our miracle winter of 1994-95 and the rise of the lake from three feet below the natural rim to within two feet below the maximum lake level, the Thunderbird was once more launched by the Gibbs to the delight of her loyal public. Now used only as a pleasure craft by Joan and Buzz Gibb, they have been extremely generous to the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society and donate the boat for our annual fund-raising raffle as the grand prize of a one hour cruise for the winner and 15 guests. Here's looking at you, kid!

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NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WINTER

NEWSLETTER

1995

From The President's Corner—

Looking Back: 1995 was a major milestone in the continuing growth of the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society. The completion of the Edmund S. Barnett wing at the Gatekeeper's Museum and the dedication of the Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Collection in the new wing on June 24, 1995, culminated a three year effort. Major thanks are due to Miriam Biro, our indefatigable Museum Director, the Board of Directors under the leadership of Rosemary and Larry Lindsey, the many contractors who contributed so generously of their time and materials, and our many members and friends who gave so generously to help make our dream a reality.

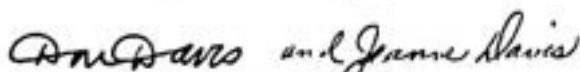
The new addition has received widespread accolades and enthusiastic response from all who have seen it. Visitors to the Gatekeeper's Museum have risen dramatically, totaling well over 20,000 for the year.

Contemplating 1996: The new year ahead holds much promise as well as some daunting tasks. We anticipate receiving at least two very significant collections of Indian artistry, which will further enhance the importance of our existing collections. At the same time, we have several major projects to be undertaken that require considerable time, effort and money. Foremost among them is the Watson Cabin Museum. It has been a bit neglected the past few years, overshadowed by the new addition at the Gatekeeper's Museum. Our plans include new fencing, removal of the old storage building behind the cabin, new landscaping and planting, some interior redecoration, and, when we can afford it, a new foundation for the cabin. To aid in raising funds for this work, we will be charging admission beginning in 1996, with the income earmarked for the restoration effort.

New for '96 is a Museum Committee, whose responsibility is to review the needs of both museums for presentation to the Board of Directors, and to organize and train volunteers to give tours, help in the preparation of displays and in the cataloging of artifacts. Anyone who is a member of the NLTHS is welcome to become a museum volunteer. Training is scheduled to begin in early spring. If interested, please contact Miriam Biro, Museum Director, at (916) 583-1762 or Jeanne Davis, Museum Committee Chairperson, at (702) 825-6581.

Interested members are also encouraged to join the Fund Raising Committee. This committee organizes and implements the various fund raising events we have during the year, such as the 'Dinner & Dixieland Membership Party and Annual Meeting and the House & Garden Tour. These events are extremely important sources of revenue for the NLTHS and additional help in their operation is always welcome. If interested, please contact Miriam Biro.

We anticipate 1996 will be another successful year for the NLTHS and we look forward to your interest and continued support. If you haven't had the opportunity to see the new addition to the museum and the Marion Steinbach Basket Collection, drop by and see what a wonderful collection we now have. The museum will be open May 1, 1996, but if you call Miriam Biro in advance at (916) 583-1762, weather permitting, she will give you a private tour this winter.


Donovan & Jeanne Davis
Co-Presidents

A Little History

(This letter was donated to the NLTHS by member, Dick Linkey)

...GREETINGS FROM US...

What better time to start this...for everyone here at Tahoe knows that the holiday season is with us, officially and otherwise, without benefit of Santa arriving by helicopter or cable car...for tonight the Big Tree in the middle of town is looking even higher with colored lights glowing in the crisp air. It was dark by the time the Sierra Pacific crew finished stringing the lights (Pete Vanni at the tip-top, one hundred and seven feet above us at one point), and when the switch was thrown, what sounds of delight all up and down the street...and our holiday season begins. And no stage props here, either, for the banks of snow along the narrow main street are six or so feet high. We keep telling ourselves and each other, "It can't happen here...not again" ...but from all indications this winter is off to an earlier, whiter start than last year, "the winter of the big snows." In fact, off to such an early start that we were caught completely unprepared...no time for promoting our "Great North Shore Snow Pool" and no sign of Red's little front house which looks like a back house, a strictly winter item which graces the front door to prevent the drips from leaking roof from going down customer's necks.

However, looking back some reminders of "the winter of the big snow," for we haven't forgotten yet. The price of milk..eighty cents a quart, the cost to the Golden State Company for milk delivered to Tahoe at one point last winter, when air transportation to Reno, train to Truckee, and finally truck to Tahoe was the only possible way of getting it through.

And how the ovens of the Tahoe City Bakery were kept going day and night by more-than-accommodating Leonard Bury to supply snowbound natives with his bread (extra-special). And how a summer resident's vehicle "saved" the marooned residents out Homewood way, when Mr. Wallace Breuner's snow-weasel appeared, loaded with all those things they had been without for so long. And what a surprise for Jack when he was touring around, checking summer places, to find that where the Mein garage should be, there was nothing but a depressed looking mushroom of snow. As a finishing touch and as a result of "the winter of the big snow," a totally collapsed, demolished, ruined house on the Truckee River with the sign that mysteriously appeared in the midst of the debris..."Harry Truman Slept Here." Until now we have had last winter and the winter of 1890, and the general opinion seems to be that we are happy and more than content with those records even for grandchildren story-telling time...enough is enough.

Chatter at the moment...We were about to accuse Constable Harry Johanson of having a still in his back yard until we got the word that his young fawn, Bambi (natch), is the one who consumes all the grapes. It seems natural to see sisters, Janette Watson and Ida Pomin, headed for the P.O. in all sorts of weather, and then suddenly we remember that after thirty-four years they gave that up, but they still like their walks, weather hitting you in the face or not. Another long-timer, Jake Obexer, appears quick-like on the scene with cigar smoke and language going in both directions at once. And speaking of long-timers, we are sorry to report that Charlie Swanson's age finally caught up with him...for after serving as night deputy for umpty-ump years in this area, someone finally discovered that he was over the age limit by umpty-ump years...not in spirit, however. And we have the latest word from Squaw Valley which opened with a bang at Thanksgiving, the tune to "The Road to Mandalay" is at a premium. Sudden thought...at least one member of each summer family should register to vote here. You pay taxes here-period. There are not enough of us registered voters to swing anything...not even a cat by the tail. Give it some thought and some action...and did your taxes take another big jump this year????

Since our Endowment Fund letter was sent in November, we have had a great many members respond in support of the long range future of the Museums. The income from which will be used to finance the growth of our facilities and programs.

ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS RECEIVED FROM:

Corene & Dick Adams	Lucy Mayhood
Jennifer & Dave Antonucci	Barbara & Gerald McCue
Pat & Bob Bernard	Mt. Rose Publishing(Tahoe World)
Miriam & Lou Biro	Barbara & John Otto
Elinore J. Boulger	Elba & Theodore Purcell
June Broile	Helen & Ralph Rauscher
Gwen & Bob Cheesewright	Marion & John Robotti
Virginia & W.P. Crinnion	Rotary Club of Incline Village
Bette Daft	Frances T. Schilling
Theda & George Dell	Dody & Bob Scoville
Theresa May Duggan	Joan & Richard Scott
Virginia Furth	Marie Sluchak
Nancy & Homer Hayward	Gisela & Anthony Steiner
Don Hillebrandt	Truckee River Bank
Elsie & Ken Jones	Petey Walsh
Kiwanis Club of North Lake Tahoe	Womens Club of North Tahoe
Lois Linn	Barbara & James Zeiler

Our goal is to establish an endowment of \$250,000. We realize that it will take a number of years to reach this amount, but we have a start at this time and hope that our many members and friends will see fit to contribute to it and help it grow to meet our objective.

All contributions to the Endowment Fund are planned to remain permanently invested and only the income from the investments will be used to support the Museums future programs and growth.

We are hopeful that you will consider contributing to our Museum Endowment Fund. A contribution of any amount, no matter how large or small, will help us to reach our endowment goal. Here are some of the ways in which a tax deductible gift can be funded both now and in the future: Deferred Gifts-most often provided in a valid will or living trust; Bequests and Bequests as Memorials; Restricted Bequests; Residuary Beneficiaries; Direct Gifts; Stock Transfers, all of which methods are Tax Deductible.

If you would like some further information, please call us at (916) 583-1762 or write to the NLTHS at P.O. Box 6141, Tahoe City, CA 96145.

Please give some serious thought to participating in some way in our endowment fund program.

.....

NEW IN OUR GIFT SHOP are three special books:

'Greenbacks and Copperheads' by David Allan Comstock, the third in the trilogy of 'Gold Diggers & Camp Followers' and Brides of the Goldrush. \$19.50

'Above Tahoe and Reno' by Robert Cameron & Warren Lerude, amazing photos from the sky. \$14.50, paperback only available at this time.

'Weavers of Tradition & Beauty-Basketmakers of the Great Basin' by Mary Lee Fulkerson and Kathleen Curtis with interviews and photos of the Washoe and Paiute weavers. \$19.95

Remember that all members receive a 10% discount on all items in our museum gift shops.

The summer gear is filed away...with skis and such mighty important at the moment...and the "coffee corner" turned on high. And we do wish that more of you would get up to see your summer country as it is now...for who knows, you may be fortunate enough to stay for weeks or until the plows get through, and think of the endless conversational tid-bits you would have for later.

In finishing, we want Mrs. Burton Swartz of Clarksburg to know our appreciation for her response to our greeting last year, and we quote: "your letter always gives us the warm feeling of "belonging"...of remembering the days when we traded at the old "Tahoe Mercantile", when we dashed down to the Tahoe Pines pier to watch the mail boat come in...an event we just couldn't miss, even if the stew did burn on the stove. Those days are long past"...and in remembering with all of you, we have a warm feeling, too...and send our best wishes for the coming year...

MRS. ANDERSON AND RED
BETTY, JACK, ANN, AND SALLY
AND KATHLEEN

CHRISTMAS 1952

.....

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Fran & Phil Barnett	Patricia & Tom McLaren
Barbara & Win Benner	Nancy & Gene Mooring
Kathy & Larry Boehm	Barbara & George Morris
Anne & Charles Haist	Linda & Hugh Pettit
Mary Louise Jackson	Suzanne & Michael Seashols
Barbara & Fritz Kalhammer	Elynor & William Schuppel
Brian G. Kestner	Jerri & George Wernette

.....

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In memory of Ray Fellows from: Jan & George Edmondson, Rosemary & Larry Lindsey, Louise M. Dunham, Betty & Ned Long, Patricia Scott, the Sierra College Physical Education Staff, Natalie Daneri, Beccy Shontz, Gwen & Dick Clarke, and Duncan 'Buzz' Davis

In memory of Walter Sommes, Harry Brulggemann & Norman Greve from Jeanne & Don Davis

In memory of Barbara J. Picard from William Picard

In memory of Dean Denton from Wes Howell

To the Edmund S. Barnett Building Fund in Memory of Hank Henry from Maxine Polzin

Betty Layton (who is recovering from spinal surgery) sent memorial donations and writes: Wayne Poulsen, the great ski pioneer with vision epitomized the finest skiing in Squaw Valley. He was always supportive of our Historical Society-we all helped with the ski museum at Boreal Ridge. John Corbett-all heart. He was invaluable to our society and never got paid for his years of photo news coverage of all the early historical events.

SPECIAL DONATIONS

For a new Fax Machine from Alice & Kenneth Smetts and Marge & Syd Bartlett. In honor of Rosemary & Larry Lindsey from Tat & Wayne Welcome Honoring Rosemary & Larry Lindsey's birthdays & anniversary from Jan & Peter Sterne

RECENT ACQUISITIONS include two scrapbook albums of newspaper clippings from Lake Tahoe papers, collected and donated by Martha and Harry Bernard. Some fascinating photographs of George Whittell from Liza Casey. Ms. Casey will also loan us Mr. Whittell's lion taming artifacts for display next summer.

THE NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS held elections in September, 1995 to elect the Board Officers. The following officers will hold office through 9/30/96:

Co-Presidents: Jeanne & Donovan Davis

Co-Vice Presidents: Jo & Al Sperry

Secretary: Kathleen Tavernier

Treasurer: Earl Marr

Board Members: Fil Aguirre & Karen McBride Aguirre, Marge & Syd Bartlett, Bernie Bechdolt, Pat & Bob Bernard, Anne Shipley Carlstedt & Kurt Carlstedt, Robert Dobbins, Jimalu Gott Davis & Gary Davis, Bobbie & Bob Dolton, Joe Drury, Jan & George Edmondson, Leonard Frierman, Steven M. Glazer, Yovana & Dan Gutowsky, Hugh Harris, Dorothy Intorf, Carolyn Johnson, Barbara & Ray Jones, Diana Larson, Rosemary & Larry Lindsey, Sarah Malin, Monica March, Gloria & Bud Novack, Beccy Shontz, Lois Linn, Catherine & Wayne Welcome and Randall Faccinto-Board Attorney, Betty Layton-Founder and Past President and Carol Van Etten-Oral Historian

.....

HOW INCLINE GOT ITS START (excerpt from 'Incline Notes, North Lake Tahoe Bonanza - Friday, June 1, 1979 by Bethel Van Tassel

The Arthur L. Wood Championship Golf Course will be dedicated at the Chalet June 10th by the Optimist Club. This will, in the words of the Optimist Club, honor "the man we consider to be the father of our community".

Art came to Tahoe via Hawaii, Oklahoma City and Reno where he met Reno attorney, Bob McDonald. Through Bob and Paul Laxalt, who at the time was a Carson City attorney for George Whittell, who owned almost all the east side of Tahoe - from Zephyr Cove to the California line with the exception of Glenbrook.

Anyway, 9,000 acres of Whittel's property was available and Bob took Art in a snowstorm on either the 1st or 4th of July to see it. Viewing it from the point, Art said to Bob "Anybody who'd buy property up in this country must be crazy". (Bob told us this and will defend us if Art gets mad). So Art and Bob bought an option from a Navy officer who had it from Captain Whittel. Bob served papers on Captain Whittel at 11 P.M. an hour before the deadline. Whittel was not happy.

The Crystal Bay Development Company was then formed with a group of ten investors, headed by Arthur L. Wood, President and Harold B. Tiller, Vice President and Treasurer, mostly from Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas. In April, 1960, the first dirt was shoveled.

The office was at Eugene's Chalet, formerly an exclusive restaurant and now the site of the home of Mary and Pete Kravchonok, which burned down New Years Eve of 1961 under mysterious circumstances - the first of three such fires. An untold story.

HOW INCLINE GOT ITS START (continued)

Among the first involved in the development was Greg Engelhard who came from Orinda with his wife, Virginia, and family, James McCourry, Art's brother-in-law, came from Oklahoma to become a sales coordinator. Raymond Smith drew up the master plan while he was with the Lake Tahoe Area Council. The Smiths were Incline residents for many years and now living in Minden. Selby Calkins, Col. USAF Ret., became public relations head and established a little newspaper "The Villager" for which we also wrote.

Harold Tiller and wife, Ann, still live at Incline. Leonard Bowser was an engineer on the concern, coming from Wheatland. Fred Schultz, after leaving the NLT Chamber of Commerce, became public relations director in 1963 and later started the Board of Realtors. He and Alysmae live in Sun Valley north of Reno. Rod Campbell joined the organization in 1961 and now has his own office and home at Incline. John Uhalde and Bill Anderson contracted for the streets and roads which they put in. Marge de Costa was the first secretary and was busy with Toastmistress Club and Republican activities as she still is - but in Reno now. Velda Farris later became office manager and was with the company for many years. 1962 and 1963 were the Frank Sinatra years at Cal Neva Lodge, but when he left in 1964, Art and the late Mac McCoskey operated the Lodge. Boise Cascade bought out the Crystal Bay Development Company in 1968 when Dan Marek became "the man" at Incline.

Memories, memories!

(note: this article is from one of the two albums donated by Martha Bernard and the albums are in our research library)

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 NEWSLETTER 

NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPRING

NEWSLETTER

1996

Welcome New Members

BETTY & MILTON CHAMPAS
MARY & BYRON DAVENPORT
DORIS B. HAND

MARJORIE & MAURICE McCOWN
MARCIA & GARY SHRAGO
MARGARET ANN & KENNETH WALLACE

In Memorium

IN MEMORY OF LORRAINE BARRY FROM BETTY & NED LONG

IN MEMORY OF JEROME 'JERRY' MAGEE FROM JANET ANGEL AND THE GEORGE EDMONDSON FAMILY

IN MEMORY OF RAY FELLOWS FROM BERNIE BECHDOLT

Special Donations

HONORING GLORIA AND BUD NOVACK'S 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY FROM SHIRLEY AND LEN FRIERMAN

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WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK JOHN BETTS, WHO SHOVELED THE ROOF OF THE ELLEN ATTARDI LIBRARY AFTER OUR BIG STORM AS A DONATION TO THE SOCIETY.

A SPECIAL THANKS, TOO, TO KATHY HOXSIE, WHO IS OUR VOLUNTEER PUBLICIST ONCE AGAIN THIS YEAR. SHE HAS MADE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO PREPARE A LETTER WE HAVE SENT TO NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA SCHOOLS TO INFORM THEM OF OUR SPECIAL TOURS AT ALL THE MUSEUMS AND INVITE THEM TO MAKE RESERVATIONS. HER BACKGROUND AND KNOWLEDGE OF OUR LOCAL HISTORY AND WRITING IS A GREAT ASSET TO THE SOCIETY.

IN THIS ISSUE OF OUR NEWSLETTER WE HAVE INCLUDED RESERVATION FORMS FOR ALL OF OUR SUMMER, 1996 FUND-RAISING EVENTS. THIS IS THE ONLY HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR RESERVATION YOU WILL RECEIVE AND SPACE WILL BE LIMITED, SO BE SURE TO SEND IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IN THE EVA B. BUCK GALLERY OF THE MARION STEINBACH INDIAN BASKET MUSEUM WE WILL FEATURE THE MAGNIFICENT WOVEN BASKETS OF LENA DICK AND HER SISTER, LILLIE JAMES OF THE WASHOE TRIBE. THESE WORKS OF ART ARE ON LOAN FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA PARKS & RECREATION DEPT.

From the Presidents Corner -

Spring is Here : Despite the occasional snow showers and blustery weather, spring really is here. Well, almost anyhow! And with the rapidly disappearing snow comes the realization that the time is at hand to begin implementing the plans that were formulated over the winter months for rehabilitation of the Watson Cabin, completing surfacing the concrete patio in front of the new Edmund S. Barnett wing of the Gatekeepers Museum, refurbishing some of the displays in the Museum and getting both the Watson Cabin and the Gatekeepers Museum spruced up for opening.

Our plans for the Watson Cabin include removing the old storage building behind the Cabin, replacing the fencing around the Cabin, completely redoing the landscaping and completing some interior modifications. This effort will result in a major improvement in the attractiveness of the Watson Cabin and in the interest of its contents to visitors. Removal of the old storage building is the first step to be taken and we have formally applied to TRPA for permission to remove the structure and have the area it presently covers "banked" for possible use in the future. We are hoping for an early approval from TRPA so that we can start work sometime this month. The interior effort will begin in the latter part of April and the patio work at the Gatekeepers will be completed in early May.

One of our major needs this year is to recruit volunteers to help at the Gatekeepers Museum. Volunteers are needed to work at the front desk answering the phone and handling gift shop sales, monitoring the museum areas when visitors are present, working on displays and in the cataloging of artifacts. If you would like to help out in any of these tasks and can give 3-4 hours per week, your help would be greatly appreciated. If you will be at the Lake for all or only part of the summer, please give serious consideration to becoming a volunteer during that time. We need you! If you are interested, please call Miriam Biro, museum director, at 916-583-1762 or Jeanne Davis, museum committee chairperson, at 702-825-6581.

Our operating costs have risen somewhat as a result of the addition of the Edmund S. Barnett wing of the museum, housing the Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Collection. That factor together with our needed improvements at the Watson Cabin have made our budget very tight this year. Since a major portion of our yearly income is derived from our fund raising events : the annual Dinner & Dixieland, the home tour, the Tahoe Gal dinner cruise and, new for this year, "A Little Music, A Little History, A Little Dinner" in conjunction with the Lake Tahoe Summer Music Festival organization, we hope that you will attend as many of these events as possible. Your support is vital to the continued success and growth of the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society.



Donovan & Jeanne Davis
Co-Presidents

NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SUMMER, 1996 - SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- MAY 1 TO OCTOBER 1 GATEKEEPER'S MUSEUM, MARION STEINBACH INDIAN BASKET MUSEUM & WILLIAM B. LAYTON PARK OPEN. HOURS:
5/1 through 6/14 and 9/2 through 9/30 open Wednesday through Sunday 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.
6/15 through 9/1 open daily 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.
- JUNE 15 TO LABOR DAY WATSON CABIN LIVING MUSEUM OPEN DAILY 12 P.M. to 4 P.M. DONATION: \$2
- TUESDAY, JUNE 25 & SATURDAY, JUNE 29 TWO BEGINNING/INTERMEDIATE PINE NEEDLE BASKET WEAVING CLASSES - EACH DAY FROM 9:30 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. BETTY AND PEGGY LONG INSTRUCTORS. PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED WITH A DONATION OF \$20 PER STUDENT PER CLASS. AN INSTRUCTION LETTER WILL BE SENT UPON REGISTRATION. EACH CLASS LIMITED TO 20 STUDENTS.
- SUNDAY, JUNE 30 A CENTURY OF LAKE TAHOE FASHIONS & BRUNCH AT GRANLIBAKKEN RESORT - PRESENTED BY THE FEDERATED WOMENS CLUB OF TAHOE CITY TO BENEFIT THE NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. COMMENTATOR: JAN LOVERIN, CURATOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA'S NEW MARJORIE RUSSELL TEXTILE & CLOTHING MUSEUM. DOOR PRIZES/RAFFLE PRIZES/DONATION \$20. 12:00 P.M. TO 2:00 P.M. BY RESERVATION. TABLES FOR FOUR OR EIGHT CAN BE RESERVED. CALL (916) 583-1762 BETWEEN 11 A.M. & 5 P.M.
- SUNDAY, JULY 7 "A LITTLE MUSIC - A LITTLE HISTORY - A LITTLE DINNER" PRESENTED JOINTLY WITH 'THE LAKE TAHOE SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL' AT WILLIAM B. LAYTON PARK AT 3:00 P.M. DONATION \$25 PER PERSON TO BENEFIT BOTH NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS. CHAMBER MUSIC/TOUR THE OLD & NEW MUSEUMS. FINE WINES DONATED BY THE CHARLES I. DANIELS FAMILY'S 'REDWOOD VINTNERS'. VALET PARKING. BY RESERVATION
- SUNDAY, JULY 14 ANNUAL 'DINNER & DIXIELAND' MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND PARTY, FEATURING THE AL SHAY DIXIELAND QUARTET. DONATION \$25 PER PERSON. ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION 3:30 P.M. NO HOST BAR 4:00 P.M. DINNER 4:30 P.M. AT THE SPIEKER ESTATE - RUBICON - VALET PARKING BY RESERVATION ONLY - SPACE LIMITED.
- THURSDAY, AUGUST 15 ANNUAL HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. WITH SPECIAL WINE & CHEESE TASTING (PRESENTED BY REDWOOD VINTNERS AND FEATURING FIVE OUTSTANDING WINERIES). HOMES IN CRYSTAL BAY/INCLINE VILLAGE. RESERVATIONS BY MEMBERS ONLY WITH LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE. NO SEPARATE RESERVATION FORMS SENT. DONATION: \$35 PER PERSON.
- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 DINNER CRUISE ON THE 'TAHOE GAL', DONATED BY 'NORTH TAHOE CRUISES'. THE BEST WAY TO SAY FAREWELL TO SUMMER IS A THREE HOUR DINNER CRUISE ON THE LAKE. BY RESERVATION ONLY AND LIMITED TO 100 GUESTS. DONATION: \$40 PER PERSON

OUR FUND-RAISING RAFFLE WILL HAVE TWO GRAND PRIZES, A CRUISE ON THE FABULOUS 'THUNDERBIRD' FOR THE WINNER AND 15 FRIENDS AND TWO ROUND TRIP TICKETS FROM RENO AIR/LAKE TAHOE TRAVEL. PLEASE RETURN YOUR STUBS AND THE PRICE 6/\$5

Excerpts from the 'Truckee Republican'

May 26, 1901

The Presidential Extra is scheduled to arrive at 9:25 this evening. The train will leave Colfax at 5:45. Every precaution has been taken to prevent accidents. No freight trains have been moved west from here since 12 o'clock last night. Between here and Blue Canyon, a man watches every switch, and patrolmen at every half mile guard the track. There are three engines to accompany the train, one of which runs a headlight to see if the track is all right. Those drawing the train are gorgeously decorated with incandescent electric lights. There are 7 cars in the train. No noisy demonstrations will be permitted, on account of Mrs. McKinley's delicate health.

May 29, 1901

THE PRESIDENT IS MET AT THE TRAIN BY AN ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD

Men, women and children eager to shake the hand of the great man. Undaunted by dark clouds and falling rain, an eager, expectant crowd gathered at the depot Saturday evening to see President McKinley as he came through on his return to Washington. As the eventful minute of 9:25 was arriving, the brilliant headlight on the engine appeared in the upper end of the yard. As the train stopped, the throng that had gathered moved quietly to the rear of the train, as the President's car was the last car, and to the extreme delight and satisfaction of the anxious crowd, the great man arose and walked out on the rear platform. A pleasant smile lit up his kind face, and without saying a word, he leaned over the railing and began shaking hands with those who were nearest. This was the signal for all, and the crowd pushed forward with hands extended upward to touch the hand of the greatest man in the United States...the President.

His magnetic presence so enthused the crowd that inspite of the admonition to preserve silence, hearty cheers went up for the president. He paid particular attention to see that he had not overlooked the little folks, and one enterprising lad claims the proud distinction of having shook hands four times with the president. Many kind expressions for his welfare were heard in the crowd, and also a few rudely familiar remarks that would have been better unsaid, but they are nearly always heard in a crowd, and he paid no attention to them, his face bearing the same pleasant smile all the time. He only spoke a few words of greeting in a low voice to those with whom he was shaking hands. The train stopped fully ten minutes in all, and all who had the hardihood to push through the crowd got to shake his hand.

July 6, 1901

Lots sold at Carnelian Bay. June L. McGlashan expects to take a party to Carnelian Bay next Wednesday for the purpose of allowing them to select the best lots in the new townsite. These first lots will be sold at \$25 each, being 40 x 100 feet. The object of selling them at this nominal figure is to allow a few of our citizens to secure a choice lot in this charming tract, and so become interested in getting their friends to do the same. Truckeeites have never been able to secure a place at Tahoe on which to secure a tent or summer cottage. As the distance is only 12 miles, and as there is a good wagon road, this truly ideal resort is peculiarly fitted for residents of Truckee. As soon as a few lots are sold, the price will be advanced.

Excerpts from the 'Truckee Republican' (continued)

September 7, 1901

THE PRESIDENT SHOT

The nation hangs breathless waiting for the outcome. In the event McKinley dies, Vice President Theodore Roosevelt will become president.

September 14, 1901

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY IS DEAD.

God's will, not ours, be done, the last words of the great man.

September 28, 1901

The large new hotel at Tahoe City (Tahoe Tavern) is well under headway. Over a million feet of lumber will be used in the construction of the building, which will be modern and up-to-date in all of its appointments.

October 5, 1901

Married at Tahoe City. The engineer on the Steamer Tahoe takes himself a bride. Ernest H. Pomin and Miss Northrup Felter were married last Wednesday evening at Tahoe City by Reverend H. O. Edson. Frank Pomin, brother of the groom, acted as best man, and Miss Janet Pomin, a sister to the groom, acted as bridesmaid. The bride was tastefully attired in white linen, with a wreath of orange blossoms, and the bridesmaid dressed in pink.

The occasion was made one of gaiety and pleasure and after a bountiful wedding supper, singing, dancing and other social amusements were indulged in. There were a number of guests present, and the newly-wed couple were the recipients of many valuable and useful presents. They came down from Tahoe on a private train, and took the early train Thursday morning for Los Angeles, where they will spend a month on their honeymoon. They will then return to Lake Tahoe and make it their future home. The groom is a young man of sterling qualities. He is the son of Captain Pomin and holds the position of Engineer on the Steamer Tahoe. He was born at Tahoe City. The bride possesses the graces that will make her a helping lifemate.

October 12, 1901

Tahoe City Improvements. There are 70 men at work on the large hotel (Tahoe Tavern) under construction at Tahoe City, and it will be all enclosed and covered in two weeks, providing bad weather does not set in too heavy. It is an immense affair, and will be a much-needed building for the increased tourist travel and sight-seers during the summer months. There is also being put in a fine water system for supplying the houses, hotels and also in connection, fire plugs for fire purposes.

APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP

NAME: _____ SPOUSE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: () _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Types of membership: Contributing(Jr. & Sr. Citizens):\$15.00
Sustaining: \$35 Sponsor: \$75 Patron: \$100 or more

Make your tax-deductible check payable to: North Lake Tahoe Historical Society. Return in the enclosed envelope or mail to: NLTHS, P.O. Box 6141, Tahoe City, CA 96145

North Lake Tahoe Historical Society

SUMMER

NEWSLETTER

1996

THANKS TO WRITER, CAROL VAN ETEN, WE HAVE A BROCHURE ON THE EDMUND S. BARNETT BUILDING/MARION STEINBACH INDIAN BASKET MUSEUM. CAROL IS OUR ORAL HISTORY CHAIRMAN AND AUTHOR OF 'TAHOE CITY YESTERDAYS', 'PRE-WAR WOOD', 'LAKERS & LAUNCHES', AND 'MEEKS BAY MEMORIES' (ALL AVAILABLE IN OUR MUSEUM GIFT SHOPS). SHE HAS ALSO COMPLETED A BROCHURE FOR THE WATSON CABIN MUSEUM GIVING PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE ROBERT MONTGOMERY WATSON FAMILY. CAROL, WHILE REMAINING OUR ORAL HISTORY ADVISOR AND CHAIRMAN, HAS TAKEN A SABBATICAL FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND WILL RESUME HER SEAT ON THE BOARD IN OCTOBER, 1996.



OUR CO-PRESIDENTS, JEANNE AND DONOVAN DAVIS, HAVE BEEN BUSY VOLUNTEERING AT THE MUSEUMS, JEANNE REDOING OUR UPSTAIRS READING DISPLAY AND DON WORKING ON THE RESTORATION OF THE WATSON CABIN ALONG WITH LOU BIRO AND AL SPERRY. RAY JONES HAS BEEN WORKING ON A NEW FENCE DESIGN AND OBTAINING THE LOGS FOR THE WATSON CABIN PROPERTY. LOU BIRO WILL BUILD THE FENCE. THE WATSON CABIN WILL BE OPEN THIS SUMMER FROM JUNE 15TH TO LABOR DAY EVERY DAY FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.



NEW ITEMS FOR SALE IN OUR MUSEUM GIFT SHOPS INCLUDE THE LAST OF THE DAVID ALLEN COMSTOCK TRILOGY, 'GREENBACKS & COPPERHEADS'; MANY BOOKS ON AMERICAN INDIAN BASKETRY: SIERRA NATURE CARDS OF OUR WILDFLOWERS, BIRDS, TREES AND MAMMALS. WE ALSO HAVE PAIUTE-WASHOE ARTIST, AUDREY GEORGE FRALINGER'S BEAUTIFUL BEADED BOTTLES, MADE ESPECIALLY FOR THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, ON SALE, PRICED FROM \$30 TO \$225. WE ALSO HAVE SOME LOVELY PINE NEEDLE BASKETS FROM ARTISTS, PETEY WALSH, LARENA BURNS AND JEWEL HALL. THE HAND-CRAFTED WOOD ITEMS BY LOU BIRO ARE ALSO FOR SALE. ALL ITEMS IN OUR MUSEUM GIFT SHOPS ARE 10% OFF TO MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY. JAMES BELL'S COLLECTIONS OF VINTAGE TAHOE PHOTOS AND VINTAGE NATIVE AMERICAN PHOTOS ARE AT THE GATEKEEPER'S MUSEUM. REGULAR PRICE IS \$22.50 EACH, TO OUR MEMBERS ONLY THE PRICE IS \$16.50. NOW IN STOCK ARE THE 1997 CALENDARS AND POCKET CALENDARS FROM PHOTOGRAPHER, LARRY PROSOR.



OUR BOARD COMMITTEES ARE VERY ACTIVE THIS YEAR. THEY ARE:
MUSEUM COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, JEANNE DAVIS
FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, MIRIAM BIRO
ENDOWMENT FUND/FINANCIAL COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, BOB DOLTON
ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, CAROL VAN ETEN
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN, AL SPERRY
NOMINATING COMMITTEE: CHAIRMAN, BOB DOBBINS

THE MARION STEINBACH MUSEUM'S 'EVA B. BUCK GALLERY' FEATURES THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S COLLECTION OF LENA FRANK DICK AND LILLY FRANK JAMES BASKETS FROM THE DR. DAY COLLECTION. A MUST-SEE FOR BASKET LOVERS, THESE ARE EXCEPTIONAL WORKS OF ART.



The 'S.S. Tahoe' is 100 years old

Lake Tahoe's 'Queen of the Lake', the S.S. "Tahoe", was built by the Union Iron Works in San Francisco for Duane LeRoy Bliss, founder of the Lake Tahoe Railway and Transportation Company and owner of the "Meteor", "Emerald II", and "Tallac" (renamed the "Nevada" in 1896). After construction of the "Tahoe", it was disassembled, shipped by train to Carson City, then hauled by wagon and mule to Glenbrook on Tahoe's east shore. It took a team of 18 animals to haul the boiler alone over 7140-foot Spooner Summit.

Captain Ernest J. Pomin piloted her for twenty three years, followed by Captain Edmund Hunkin for thirteen years and then Captains Henry Rose and George Mawdsley.

When launching day, June 24, 1896, finally arrived, hundreds gathered to witness the christening by Bliss' daughter, Hope, niece, Ada Tobey, and two-year old grandson, Will. Champagne flowed, the famous 'Pray' cannon boomed, and Tahoe's biggest ship began a reign destined to last forty years.

The steam-powered vessel was amazingly sleek and elegant. Her length was 169 feet, with a beam of only 18 feet. She could carry up to 200 passengers, plus mail and freight, and could reach a speed of 18½ knots. Twin steam engines were fed by an 8' X 16' boiler, and a total of 1200 horsepower could be expended, turning the propellers 353 revolutions per minute. Its hull was made up of eight water-tight compartments, the "Tahoe" was virtually unsinkable. Steaming across the lake in this beautiful ship was an experience unlike any known today. The ladies' cabins were paneled in teak and mahogany, as were the decks, and the gentlemen's lounge in cedar. Seats were upholstered in crimson plush and moroccan leather. Hot and cold running water was pumped to the marble-fixtured lavatories, and steam heat warmed every room on the ship. The 30-foot deck, when not packed with freight and mail, was used for dancing.

In 1901, a railroad was built onto the Tahoe Tavern pier in Tahoe City. A wood-burning narrow gauge "rattler" made runs from Truckee, and every summer morning at 9:10 the "Tahoe", loaded with passengers, mail and supplies, embarked upon the 75-mile trip around the lake. What a grand tour it must have been! Piers had been built to accommodate the steamer, and resorts had flourished. Regular and call stops were made at all the major hotels and casinos. After leaving the luxurious Tahoe Tavern Hotel and Casino, the "Tahoe" began its circle. First came McKinney's Club House (now Chambers Landing) then Moana Villa where disembarking passengers passed beneath an archway spelling out its name in yellow green pine moss letters; beautiful Emerald Bay; Tallac, once known as "Yank's Station", opulent with a casino, four bowling alleys, ladies' billard and pool rooms, theatrical stage and dressing rooms, and almost every outdoor sport imaginable. Then it was around to her birthplace at Glenbrook and on to the logging communities of Incline and Crystal Bay; W.B. Campbell's Hot Springs Resort (later known as Brockway Springs Resort); the casino at Tahoe Vista; Carnelian Bay and back to Tahoe City by 5 P.M.

The reign of the 'Queen of the Lake' came to an end when highways around the lake were improved and her mail contract was lost to the "Marion B." in 1934. She was decommissioned, then docked at Tahoe City for nearly five years. Concerned at the disintegration and threatened sale for scrap of his family's historic boat, William Seth Bliss bought the "Tahoe" back and made preparations for her burial.

William F. Ham was told to prepare the "Tahoe" for scuttling off Glenbrook's Dead Man's Point. Tahoe residents were saddened, and school children circu-

lated petitions asking Bliss if the vessel could be saved. But it was useless. On the afternoon of August 29, 1940, the "Tahoe" was towed out to her grave. She did not go down without a fight. Every valve Ham could find had to be opened, and it was after midnight before the ship sank. The next day the "Tahoe"s flag was washed up onto the shore at Glenbrook and a day later a section of her superstructure floated into her old berth at Tahoe City.

On display in the Gatekeeper's Museum are many artifacts of the "Tahoe" and other Lake Tahoe ships and boats, including the name plate from the "Tahoe", ship's bell and all-aboard lantern, builder's bronze plaque and many photos and newspaper articles about the ship. Also on display is an all-aboard lantern and head lamp from the narrow gauge train that met the "Tahoe" on the Tahoe Tavern pier.

If you are interested in reading more about the "Tahoe", we have, in our gift shops, Edward B. Scott's 'Saga of Lake Tahoe' Vol. I and II; 'Railroads and Steamers of Lake Tahoe' by Owen F. McKeon, 'The Steamer Tahoe' by Lyndall Landauer; a poster showing the "Tahoe"s elevations and two video tapes. The first is 'Sunken Treasures of Lake Tahoe' and the second is a vintage film put on tape of a trip to Lake Tahoe in 1915 and a tour in 1930.

Thanks to the Hewlett Packard Company, we now have a new computer and keyboard. Thanks to Hugh and Muriel Harris, we have a new copy machine, and thanks to Jeanne & Don Davis' daughter-in-law, we have a printer. Aleta Drake has created a specialized membership program for us and we are now beginning our programming. We will catch up to the 20th century before it turns into the 21st!

Welcome New Members

Maria & Diosdado Banatao	Nancy Vitaich
Jacquelyn Kenney	Marva & John Warnock
Becky & Clark Atkinson	Adrienne & Don Hillebrandt
Joelle & James Conn	Phyliss & Malcolm Jayred
Julia M. Crow	Adella & Edward Page
Carol & Kemp Doersch	Jeff Stevens
Marilyn & Warren Hagberg	Juanita & David Tormey
Helena M. Troy/Edward J. Wasp	

Memorial Donations

In memory of Elizabeth 'Betty' Bogart from Janet Angell
In memory of Dorothy Hurt from Barbara and Ray Jones
In memory of Phillip Gilanfarr from Gloria and Bud Novack
In memory of Brent Warner from Mr. and Mrs. William Thalhimer, Jr.
In memory of Wallace Breuner from Peggy and Dick Hartshorne

We would like to thank the 'Ascending Arborist', David Montgomery for the two loads of logs which will be used to build the new Watson Cabin fence.

THE NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL

NEWSLETTER

1996

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Fall is Just Around the Corner: Summer has come and gone and now the hubbub of visitors at the museum will begin to subside once again. Attendance at the Gatekeeper's Museum reached an all-time high this summer with over 16,000 visitors to date, through August. Gift shop sales and museum donations have been excellent and our summer fund-raising events were very successful.

The fund-raising events are extremely important to our financial well-being since they provide nearly one-third of our annual income. With five events taking place this summer, the task has not been easy, and we are deeply indebted to the members of our Board of Directors, all of whom worked long and hard to support each event, as did our Museum Director, Miriam Biro, and her husband, Lou, and our Watson Cabin Curator, Betty Long.

With the implementation of the new By-Laws of N.L.T.H.S., limiting Board members to a maximum of two successive three-year terms before being off of the Board for at least one year, we are losing eleven of our most senior Board members as of October. They have all served faithfully and diligently for many years and have been keenly and vitally involved with the growth of the Gatekeeper's Museum, the building of the Ellen Attardi Library, opening of the Watson Cabin Museum, and the building of the Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum. They are: Bernie Bechdolt, Steven M. Glazer, Yovana & Dan Gutowsky, Dorothy Intorf, Carolyn Johnson, Rosemary & Larry Lindsey, Sarah Malin, Marjorie & Earl Marr, Gloria & Bud Novack, Beccy Shontz and Kathleen Tavernier. Each one will be truly missed. We hope they will remain interested in N.L.T.H.S. and will consider returning to the Board in the future.

We hope that all of you were able to visit the Museum this summer and see first hand the remarkable collections of both Indian Baskets and Tahoe Memorabilia that is on display. Your interest and support is vital to the success and continued growth of the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society.



Donovan & Jeanne Davis
Co-Presidents



The Charles I. Daniels Family and their Redwood Vintners not only donated the wines for our 'Dinner & Dixieland' annual membership meeting and party and for 'A Little Music, A Little History & A Little Dinner' joint fundraiser with the Lake Tahoe Summer Music Festival, but also presented the Fine Wine Tasting at the Clark Home on our annual House Tour. The Daniels' sponsorship of events has been ongoing and truly generous for many years.

A Dinner Cruise on the 'Tahoe Gal' was donated to the N.L.T.H.S. for the third year in a row by Judy & Merle Lawrence and Ginger & Jim Walsh of **North Tahoe Cruises**. All the guests enjoyed a delightful dinner while enjoying the cruise and were pampered by the very professional captain and crew. All income from this fund-raiser benefitting the N.L.T.H.S. museums.

A LITTLE HISTORY

From the 'TAHOE TATTLER', Tuesday, July 12, 1881:

ORDINANCE NO. 1

Lying about our lake will no longer be permitted without bringing the culprits to justice. Such stories as taking eight and ten pound trout out of the lake daily, bears chasing men and devouring them, only leaving the sole of a boot and a pair of spectacles by which to recognize one party, and nothing at all for the friends of another to cry over, etc., if repeated, will cause the individual to wear a big poster upon his back with the word "Liar" branded upon it, to say nothing of the wrath of this editor, which will be showered upon him. The truth about events transpiring around our lake is good enough for average humanity, and in the future, we do not propose to have the outside world imposed upon by such rash stories as above mentioned.

Altogether, as near as we can learn, there are now about two hundred tourists on the lake, camping and stopping at the different hotels and watering places. Of this number sixty-five are at present being made comfortable by A. J. Bayley, the genial host of the Grand Central Hotel, Tahoe City, Cal.

.....

From the 'TAHOE TATTLER', Saturday, July 16, 1881

CRYSTAL BAY

This place, at the extreme northern end of the lake, although very little known to people who visit the lake, is a beautiful sheet of water, with probably the finest beach to be found anywhere on the shores of Lake Tahoe. At this point are situated the works of the Sierra Wood and Lumber Co., of which Captain J. B. Overton is Superintendent. Marlette & Folsom, well-known to all wood and lumber dealers throughout the mountains, have a contract for 40,000 cords of wood, and already some 20,000 cords are cut and piled on the grounds. The wood is landed at the foot of the mountain chain bordering the lake on the east, from whence it is hoisted up an incline three-quarters of a mile in length, and from there the wood is flumed to Virginia City, in one place the flume running through a tunnel 4,000 feet in length. To see the working of the incline is well worth a trip to the northern part of the lake.

.....

From the 'TAHOE TATTLER', Wednesday, September 7, 1881

HOW TO COME TO TAHOE

From the east, switch off at Reno, on the V & T, R. R. for Virginia City and Carson, then take Benton's stage to Glenbrook on the east side of the lake; or come on to Truckee, where with passengers from the west, take breakfast at the Truckee Hotel, J.F. Moody, host, cannot be missed as the cars turn out right into the house, then take the stage for Tahoe, 15 miles up the Truckee River amid as wild inspiring scenes as the world affords.

From the 'TAHOE TATTLER', Saturday, November 12, 1881: ADS

HUNTER'S HOME: Sugar-Pine Point, Lake Tahoe, Cal. Cottages for everybody. Free boats for guests. Good Hunting and Fishing.
J. w. McKinney, Proprietor

TAHOE HOUSE: Board and Lodging \$10 and \$12 per week. Boats and fishing Tackle free to guests. Wm. Pomin, Proprietor

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Chick & Chris Alexander	Eleanor Matheu
Anita & Paul Ambrosio	Pauline & Steve Maxon
Alice & Paul Arthur	Phyllis & James McCarty
Kerry Drury & Michael Askins	Thomas McConnell
Bea & Larry Axelrod	Jo McDougal
Bea & R. Robert Brattain	Lee & Bob Merrick
Jan & Joseph Browne	Marjory & George Osborn
Julie & Jan Clark	Ralph Petty
Helen & Steve DiZio	Charles & Michael Ann Raney
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Dumke	Kathi & Allen Robertson
Pat & Hal Eby	Mary & Michael Shea
Dorothy & William Frey	Barbara & Tom Simms
Carolyn Frost	Terri & Barry Sitkoff
Beatrice & George Gibson	Suzanne & Don Smith
Sheryl & Richard Keller	Kay & John Stewart
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Kimmey	Kathy & Steve Swigard
Dorothy Clarkson & Andy Lundberg	Lorri & Samuel Waldman
Ellen & Gilbert Magnani	Ruth & Douglas Waterman
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh March	MaryLynn Welch
Carolyn & Barry Martin	Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Zografos
Barbara Kurtzon Zubrick	

THANKS TO THE RAFFLE PRIZE DONORS

We would like to express our gratitude to our North Lake Tahoe Business Community and to the generous individuals who made our fund-raising raffle such a success. Thank you to:

Elegant Touch Nails	Le Bistro
Ikeda's Market in Auburn	Ponderosa Golf Course
Atlantis Hotel in Reno	Jeunesse
Jeri Grabb at La Petite Salon	Crystal Bay Steak & Lobster House
Malm's Homewood Hardware	M.S. Dixie
Hot Looks by Colleen	Hacienda del Lago
John Betts	Gloria & Bud Novack
Swiss Lakewood Restaurant	Carol Van Etten
Graham's at Squaw Valley & Chambers Landing	Harvey's Resort Hotel
Caesar's Resort Lake Tahoe	Joe Drury
Jeanne Davis	Tahoe Tree Company
Tahoe House	Lanza's Restaurant
Tahoe City Electric	Reno Air
Tat & Wayne Welcome	Lake Tahoe Travel
	Joan & Buzz Gibb

MEMORIAL & SPECIAL DONATIONS

In memory of Wallace E. Breuner, Jr. from: Virginia Jacob and Robert McKenzie; Martha MacLaughlin & Family and Mary Ann & Bert Tonkin.
In memory of Betty Bogart from Christine & Robert Feibusch.
In memory of Betty Bogart and Frank McGee from Nancy & Homer Hayward.
In memory of Lane Hunt from Betty & Ned Long
In memory of Frank Lawson from Beccy Shontz
In memory of Hans Felsch from Gloria & Bud Novack
In memory of Hans Felsch & Willis E. Scott from Miriam & Lou Biro
In memory of Willis E. Scott from Marjorie & Earl Marr and Bobbie & Bob Dolton.
In memory of Hans Felsch and Rosa Mashbir from Carolyn & Boyd Quinn
In memory of Georgeann Kraus, in the name of Jack Johannsen from Dagmar & Ray Dolby.
Special donation to our Endowment Fund from Helen & Pete Smith & R.A. Stoner

A LITTLE HISTORY.....

(The letter following is from the correspondence between Robert Montgomery Watson and James Moffitt and the collection is in the Ellen Attardi Library.)

Tahoe, Cal. Dec. 17 - 1924

Dear James, I Recd your letter and the Pictures a long time ago they were fine. I love to think of that trip up Dicks Peak on the 5th of July. also of the lone sentinel gaurding the Pass now covered with snow. we have about 1½ feet here just good sleighing and Ther- at zero this morning are you and Mrs. Moffitt coming for the Holly Days as you spoke about when here last. Say James, I want to have you tell your Father in law (the good old scout) about our Indian Rock. we have known of it for years, was about 150 yards from the outlet of the Lake near end of standard oil warf was never known in memory of white man to be out of water before, so Rob and myself with other Help jacked it up on Blocks. got it on His truck (weighs about 2 tons) and carted up under the big Pine by Robs Log House (Ed: our Watson Cabin Living Museum) it has three Deep mortar Holes for grinding acorns. that Proves that at one time the Lake was for a long Period much lower than white men have ever seen it and it was the only flat Rock in the vecinity that they could use for mortar Holes

I know it will Interest E. G. Schmidell and many others who come Here in the summer time. well it rests now overlooking whare for many Centurys it must have been emersed you will see it if you come up if not will send you Pictures of it
well James let me know if you are coming with Best wishes to all

Sincerely

RM Watson

(the letter is spelled and punctuated exactly as possible.)

The grinding stone that is now in the fenced area between North Lake Blvd. and the Watson Cabin was, at one time, moved to the Watson-Collins property on Old Mill Road and returned to the cabin on the lake when the Historical Society took over the building.

.....

Along with many other historic items, Ellen St. Sure Lifschutz has now donated the Steamer 'Tahoe' sign, the Union Iron Works builder's plaque and the head lamp from the Truckee-Tahoe narrow gauge train to the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society. They were previously on loan. Following is the history of how they were saved as written by Mrs. Lifschutz:

The 'Tahoe' sign, Union Iron Works plaque and Engine lamp were all the properties of my mother, Elizabeth Bliss St. Sure, granddaughter of Duane L. and Elizabeth T. Bliss. Although born in Oakland in 1899, she spent her childhood at Hobart Mills, near Truckee, where her father, C. T. Bliss, was manager and later at the Tahoe Tavern, of which he was also manager. She, herself, owned property south of the Tavern where she spent summers to the end of her life.

Her attachment to the Tahoe of her childhood was strong and proprietary. She quite literally felt that, as the last "Bliss" on the California side of the Lake, everything and anything from the "old days" not claimed and cher-

ished by someone else was hers to take. And, so she took these artifacts from the Steamer 'Tahoe' and the little old engine in the late 1930s when both were, more or less, abandoned on the Tahoe City waterfront. My sister, Beth, and I were with her and Dr. Gerard Gray when they "boarded" the dry-docked ship for the last time before its sinking, and "salvaged" the sign and plaque*. She may have had permission to do this from her uncle, Will S. Bliss, who was then re-purchasing the ship in order to give it "a decent burial" in the Lake. But, in any case, she felt they were both (train and ship) Bliss properties and therefore hers. And most fortunate for the North Lake Tahoe museum and lovers of Tahoe history that she did, or there would be no extant local reminders of the little old train and the great ship.

Sign, plaque and lamp were at our cabin at 740 West Lake (my mother's originally) until I sold the property in 1994.

*The late Dr. Gray was then building a ski-house at Sugar Bowl and also salvaged various things from the ship including, as I recall, its bar stools for use in his Sugar Bowl chalet. They were bolted to the floor so they might still be there.

.....

Patricia Bernard and her husband, Robert E. Bernard, were longtime members of the Historical Society and serving a three-year term on our Board of Directors when Pat suffered a devastating stroke and died in September, 1996. Her loss is keenly felt by our Board and her many friends and family. Following is a list of people who sent donations to our Endowment Fund in her memory:

Alpine Meadows Ski Corporation
 Eddy & Osvaldo Ancinas
 Carolyn & Clay Bedford
 Nelson A. Bennett
 Miriam & Lou Biro
 Charlene Broga
 Mary W. Chappell
 The Crothers Family
 Diane & Jim Fisher
 Dolores & John Geyer
 Joan & Dick Haber
 Jacqueline & Terry Hawa
 Alan Herzig & Jeanne D. Wohlers
 Jody & Joe Jones
 Mary Jane Laity
 Dr. & Mrs. Joseph H. Lesser
 Pat & Vernon Lucas
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 Tat & Wayne Welcome
 Virginia & Joe Woods

Avis & Nick Badami
 Edie & Vladimir Bazjanac
 Georgene & Seymour Behlman
 Patricia Ann & Kristian Berg
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 F. Warren Hellman
 R. & J. Hubber-Richard
 Jean Kjar
 Joseph H. Lausmann, Jr.
 Rosemary & Larry Lindsey
 Kathryn & John McGinis
 Barbara & Eddie Mozen
 Kazuo Ogawa
 Betty & Albert Perreault
 United States Skiing
 Carolee & Howard White
 Yuni Yamamoto



ENDOWMENT FUND DRIVE

We would like to thank all of the generous and supportive members and friends of the Historical Society who sent in donations for our Endowment Fund Drive of November, 1996. They are:

The Prudential California Realty	Donna & Jack Macey
Shirley & Louis Kearn	Ann K. Lenway
Alice & Harold Furst	Barbara & Win Benner
Lisa Roberts(Rubicon Technology)	Peggy & James Long
Pat & Bob Crosbie	Dora Dodson
Phyllis & Malcolm Jayred	Mary & Jack Stirton
Peggy & Reid W. Dennis	Dody & Bob Scoville
Vera Long	Joseph V. Facha
Carol & Charles I. Daniels, Jr.	Margaret M. Sisk
Barbara & Ron Lichter	Sandy & Homer Hayward
Robin Elledge	Mrs. August H. Schilling
Pauline & R. W. Abbe	Jim Loughlin
Barbara & Gerald McCue	Ann & John Platt
Clara & Robert B. Martin	Anne & Robert Levison
Rosemary & Larry Lindsey	Maryon Davies Lewis
Ellen & Gilbert Magnani	Hope & John Sheehey
Shirley White(in memory of Paul White)	Annette & Fred Gellert, Jr.
Marion & John Robotti	Virginia & James Nakada
Anonymous	Monica Mary March
Robert E. Bernard	Cynthis Collinsworth
Barbara & Locke W. Turner	Karen & Bernd Bremer
Jacque & Don Mielke	Norma & Gerald Watkins
Anne & John Hetland	Mr. & Mrs. Robert B. Shea
Nancy & Bob Shurtleff(in honor of Carolyn Johnson)	Theresa & Thomas Berry
	Elizabeth & Ralph Peer, II

Our Endowment Fund is now over \$43,000.00 in cash, mutual funds and stocks. Our Endowment Committee is chaired by Bob Dolton with members: Don & Jeanne Davis, Bob Dobbins, Hugh Harris, Earl Marr, Miriam Biro, and Ken Jones

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MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In memory of Willis E. Scott from: 'The original bridge group of Rosemary Lindsey, Beccy Shontz, Dody Scoville and Dottie Intorf; Jane & Bill Sumner; Miriam & Lou Biro

In memory of Hans Felsch from Gene & Nancy Mooring; Miriam & Lou Biro

In memory of Marjorie B. Scheller from Marjorie A. Smith

In memory of Chip Matcham from Rosemary & Larry Lindsey; Miriam & Lou Biro

In memory of Janet Schei from Mary & Pat Harrington; Miriam & Lou Biro

In memory of Molly & Dick Pegg from Mary & Pat Harrington

In memory of Mrs. Brooks Walker from Gwendolyn & Robert Cheesewright

In memory of Jean Minasian from Gina & Harry Brix

In memory of Merilyn Hills Horning from Doryce & Don Wells

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A FREE ONE-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION TO "SIERRA HERITAGE" MAGAZINE.....

Janice L. Forbes, the Publisher of 'Sierra Heritage' magazine has made a most generous donation to the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society of fifty one-year subscriptions to her excellent and beautiful magazine to raise money for our Endowment Fund. Our Endowment Fund Committee has voted to give the first fifty members who sign up a new member or renew at the \$100 patron level a gift subscription, value \$20.

This fine magazine, covering the Sierra Region, features many articles on the history of Lake Tahoe, Truckee and the Gold Country. It is so well done that we have saved the issues and have them available for research in our Ellen Attardi Library.

If all of our members would bring in one new member we would double our membership and support.

.....

NEW ACQUISITIONS

"Bill" Dewhurst has donated four turn-of-the-century Native American baskets including a small Washoe bowl, fancy 'Degikup'; small single rod Washoe bowl and two Pomo gift baskets, all in excellent condition and truly beautiful.

Peggy Hartshorne has donated eight baskets that have been in her family since the turn-of-the century, most representing the Southwest along with Maidu, Chumash, Western Apache and Jicarilla Apache, Pima and Papago.

These baskets will be on display next summer.

.....

ARE YOU PLANNING A FAMILY REUNION, PICNIC, WEDDING OR SPECIAL PARTY?

Remember that William B. Layton Park is available for special events with pre-registration. It is not a fee, but a tax-deductible donation that you make to rent the park. This is a day-use area and we do not have lighting for night events. While the weekends fill up very fast, weekdays are usually open and a great time to be at the park. For further information, please call Miriam Biro (916) 583-1762 between 11 A.M. and 5 P.M. daily.

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WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

For members who are interested in being volunteers at the Watson Cabin Museum, Gatekeeper's Museum and Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum, a two-day class will be offered in late April or early May. Please contact Miriam Biro or Betty Long (916-583-1762). There are many ways to volunteer, including greeting people and manning the gift shops, leading tours, cataloging, helping with fund-raising events, outside work in the park and much more. Being a volunteer is a wonderful way to meet people, represent your Historical Society and learn more about our local history.



NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SPECIAL WATSON CABIN NEWSLETTER
WINTER, 1997

Our Building and Grounds Committee Chairman, Syd Bartlett, has found that the restoration of the Watson Cabin has become an urgent problem due to several new developments. This newsletter is devoted entirely to this oldest home, built on-site, in Tahoe City and listed on the National Register of Historic Homes.

WATSON CABIN



Overlooking Lake Tahoe and the Commons Beach in Tahoe City is an unimposing little log cabin of significant historical interest. It still stands on the original site where it was built of local logs and is an outstanding example of turn-of-the-century log cabin construction in the Lake Tahoe region.

The cabin was started in 1908 by Robert Montgomery Watson and his youngest son, Robert H. It was completed for the wedding of the son and Stella Tong in June 1909.

Mildred Watson was born a year later in 1910 and the family was one of the few to live at Lake Tahoe year around. Mildred remembers that autos were put up on blocks in garages at the first snowfall and not brought out again until spring.

The original cabin contained a small living room and kitchen downstairs with two dormer bedrooms upstairs. Later, a fireplace in the living room and a sun porch were added and a bathroom built upstairs. A shell of a building was built in back for a garage. The gift shop downstairs was built for the tenant as a sales room in the 1950's.

Stella Watson lived in the cabin until about 1950 when she leased it to E. P. "Husky" Hunt and his wife, Fern. They sold gifts from around the world and has a renowned collection of Navajo Indian rugs. In 1976, the Hunts retired and Betty and Judy Layton's Potter's Wheel carried on the tradition of selling Navajo rugs as well as fine pottery.

In 1979, through the efforts of the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society and the Tahoe City Public Utility District, the cabin was purchased from Mildred Watson Collins. Today it is protected and preserved as an historical landmark having been laced on the National Register of Historical Places by the U. S. Dept. of Interior on 8/24/79.



THE WASHO INDIANS

The Washo Indians travelled from Carson City to Lake Tahoe for the summer months where they were big tourist attractions. Some of the women would do their basket weaving at the mouth of the Truckee River including the world renowned Dat So La Lee, who would gather her willows, bracken and red bud for her baskets and sit by the hour weaving intricate patterns. She married a Paiute, Charley Kaiser, who also frequented the area. The Washo Chief, Capt. Pete and his wife Agnes were long time friends of the Watsons.

Mildred remembers as a child seeing the huge Indian grinding stone at the mouth of the Truckee River and later her father moved it to the front of the Watson Cabin where it once again on display. The Watsons maintained a folding bed in back of the cabin for the Indian wayfarers and would give them food whenever they came to the door.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE N.L.T.H.S.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your new President. Having been associated with Lake Tahoe since early childhood, I have a special interest in the history of this area and am committed to the goals of the Society - to study, preserve, and interpret the history and heritage of the Lake Tahoe Basin. In 1995 the Edmund S. Barnett Building was completed to house our world-class Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Collection. This exhibit has been overwhelmingly received by the public, press and historians.

To continue to preserve the history of North Lake Tahoe it is urgent to direct our immediate attention to the Watson Cabin Living Museum, housed in its historic 1909 log cabin.

We need to preserve our original roots and not only is this a museum for residents and visitors to Lake Tahoe, but a tour of the Watson Cabin is a major event for school children in the Lake Tahoe Basin and Northern California and North West Nevada, a time for them to experience how early families lived at Tahoe at the turn-of-the-century. Since 1990 thousands of students have been given special tours. The cabin and the Watson Family are vital parts of the history of North Lake Tahoe.

We are committed to the preservation of this historic building and ask you now to support the Watson Cabin Restoration. A donation from many people will help us reach our goal. Donations can be made for 1997; Spring 1998; or divided between the two years. Thank you for your help to SAVE THE WATSON CABIN.

Carolyn Johnson, President

.....

WE WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOU, FIRST ABOUT THE PROBLEMS, AND THEN ABOUT THE REMARKABLE FAMILY WHO MEANT SO MUCH TO LAKE TAHOE.

NEEDED RESTORATION

Over the past few years it has become evident that the Watson Cabin has, in some respects, become unsafe and that in a few more years it may become totally unusable. There is no structural foundation under the building. The supporting floor members are on the ground, creating a dry-rot condition. The original stone fireplace has settled and moved away from the structure and, as a result, cannot be used. The original windows are in serious disrepair and need to be replaced.

We have had a structural engineer examine the cabin and specify the work needed to make it structurally sound. This will require raising the building to construct a complete concrete foundation and then lower the cabin onto it. Since the cabin at present is below street level, the new foundation will also raise the building enough to provide adequate drainage and improve its appearance from the street. The stone fireplace will be dismantled and a new one of similar stone constructed in its place. The windows will be repaired or replaced with new windows maintaining the original style of construction. A number of other improvements will also be made at the same time. Cost estimates for the work have been obtained and total \$45,000.

The urgency stems from the time table for the sidewalk improvements scheduled for summer, 1999. At that point it would be extremely difficult and substantially more expensive to access the cabin for foundation placement. We must raise the \$45,000 by early Spring of 1998 so that work can begin in may and be completed by the fall. Structural drawings and a breakdown of estimates are available to anyone interested.

To all of our Members and Friends who care about our history and the charming little cabin which has stood overlooking the Lake for the past eighty eight years we ask your help. Will you pledge \$100 or more for this project? This pledge can be donated now or \$50 now and \$50 next April. If you are unable to pledge the requested amount, we will be grateful for whatever help you can give!

.....

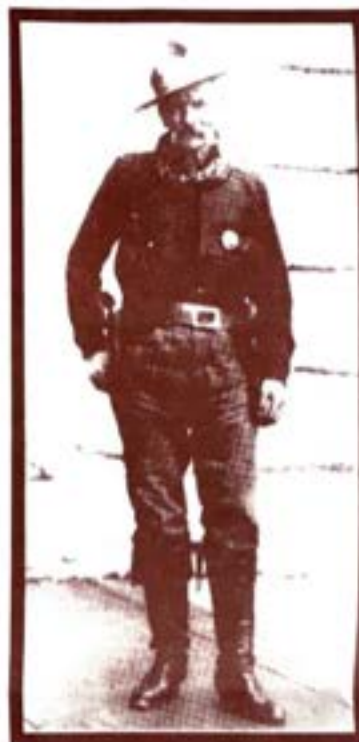
The NLTHS was founded in 1969 and incorporated as a 501(C)(3) nonprofit, public benefit corporation in 1971.

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Entwined in the history of the Watson Cabin are the lives of those pioneers who built it and lived in it: Included below are the brief histories of these early Tahoe City residents as recorded by Mildred Watson Collins.

**ROBERT MONTGOMERY WATSON
SARAH ANN CUNNINGHAM WATSON**

Born in 1854 in Bradford County, Pennsylvania, he came to Tahoe in 1875 in the gold bonanza year. He married Sarah in Gold Hill and moved to Tahoe. The lived in a large house built with gingerbread design at the corner of North Lake Blvd. (Main Street) and Grove Street. They owned the entire block.



Constable R. M. Watson

Sarah refused to spend the winters in Tahoe City. She had an interesting upbringing and childhood. Her mother was born in Maine and shipped her three children to San Francisco to live with an aunt. Enroute, Sarah walked across the Isthmus of Panama with her older brother and sister when she was four years old. Her aunt was not exactly happy to receiver her sister's three children and they became wars of the church and raised in foster homes. They all became sound successful adults. Frances became Mayor of Hanford. Mae ran McKinney's Resort and Sarah was raised by the Castro family of San Francisco. Sarah's relatives would go to McKinney's (Chamber's Landing) and spend from one month to all summer. They would take the railroad to Truckee and get to Lake Tahoe by horse and buggy. Robert M. Watson leased and ran the Tahoe Inn around 1887 from owners, Caldwell & Morgan, Meeks's Bay. Alice, the youngest daughter, was born at the Tahoe Inn.

In 1897 Robert M. went to the Yukon to seek gold. He stayed two years and laid stake to a gold mine at White Horse-Dawson. He built a small log cabin in Alaska and when he returned to Tahoe City, he built a replica in back of his house (corner of Grove and Main Street) which still stands today. He returned to Tahoe City as trail blazer, mountaineer, conservationist and High Sierra guide. His name became famous throughout the Tahoe region and today it remains on Mount Watson and Watson Lake.

He was rich in friendship and lore and knew a great many 'famous' people who were newspaper and industrial tycoons. Old friends included Buell of the Sacramento Bee, the McGees of early San Francisco days, Dr. Herbert Moffitt of San Francisco and many others. Another good friend was Scotty Allen of Alaska, who came to Tahoe City in 1929 to lead his dog teams for festivities at the Tahoe Tavern.

He owned the hillside property that is located in back of the golf course in Tahoe City. He gave it to the Lake Tahoe Ski Club, who later sold it in 1964 or 1965 to the Isbell Construction Company of Reno. The land was labelled 'green belt' so was unbuildable and remains in its natural beauty today.

Robert M. held the contract in winter to deliver the mail. He had to use lots of patience to teach the horses how to use snowshoes to pull the sleighs.

When his granddaughter, Mildred, was in college she took one week's leave of absence in October so that she could help her grandfather (who was then 70 years old) survey and mark the trail from Squaw Valley to Auburn (part of the Old Emigrant Trail from Carson City to Sutter's Fort). He marked the trail with precision and it is still used today by the Tevis Cup horseback riders who cover the 100 mile distance in one day. It took Mildred and her grandfather four days to complete the blazing of the trail but not without their trials. The horses ran away from their camp (two riding horses and one pack horse) and it necessitated the two of them walking to the Ranger's Station. Robert M. walked the entire distance back to Tahoe and Mildred got a ride from the Westville sheriff to the train which would take her to Truckee. Wendell Robie came up from Auburn to Sunflower Flat to take pictures of the trailblazing.

Robert M. was our constable from 1900 until his death in 1932. He built our first schoolhouse in 1906 (in one day), built the Gatekeeper's Cabin in 1910 and built a monument on the trail that leads from Squaw Valley to Auburn which is dedicated to the pioneers and those who died while in service to their country.

For years, the 'bible' of Lake Tahoe was George Wharton James's "The Lake of the Sky". In the 1915 edition, he dedicated the book to Robert M. Watson:

***To his friends, "Bob" Fearless Explorer, Expert Mountaineer,
Peerless Guide, Truthful Fisherman,
Humane Hunter, Delightful Raconteur,
True-hearted Gentleman, Generous
Communicator of a large and varied
Knowledge, Brother to Man and Beast
and Devoted Friend.....which says it all."***

ROBERT H. WATSON

He was born September, 1886 in San Francisco, the third son of Robert Montgomery Watson and Sarah Cunningham Watson. Robert had two sisters, Alice and Edna, the older daughter who died at 35 years of tuberculosis, and two brothers, Francis (Frank) and Herbert (Bert).

Bert, the oldest son, married Jeannette Pomin who was Postmistress in Tahoe City for over twenty five years before she retired in 1950. Bert would deliver mail and pick up the mail in his truck. They had no children. Frank, second son, went to Alaska with his father, Robert M. Watson, and stayed on when his father returned and never came back. He lived in Watson Lake, Canada (which was named after him). He married a Native American-French Indian and they had two children.

Robert H. grew up in Tahoe and attended the first school which was located down by the boat works. His father built the first school and all of the families chipped in to pay the teacher. School was moved to the present site on Grove Street from the Bliss property on the lake. (the cemetery was also down at the boat works and later moved to the present site overlooking Tahoe City from Fairway Drive.) He went with his mother to Oakland in the wintertime. She bought a house there because she couldn't live at the lake. He attended Oakland Tech School for two or three years.

He went into building and was a contractor. He and his father built the "Watson Cabin" at 560 North Lake Boulevard, Tahoe City. They started in 1908 and it took a year to complete just in time for the wedding of Robert and Stella Tong in June, 1909. They moved into the cabin at that time. Robert went into heavy construction work and built many breakwaters and piers, including the Mein breakwater. Other structures which Robert H. built or helped to build were: the Outdoor Episcopal Chapel, in 1914 he built the Lookout Station at Martis Peak, built the Casino at Tallac and built a log house at Al Tahoe for the Lehys. He also built the Light house at Sugar Pine Point.

He was shy with strangers but outgoing with friends. He loved fishing and hunting and after a 15 hour work day, often would grab a rod or a gun and go out to enjoy himself. He had excellent taste and enjoyed buying the best from Abercrombie & Finch, L.L. Bean and other fine stores. He liked to be well-dressed. He was President of the Ski Club and was busy at it when he was not working.

He purchased a lumber company and land which fronted on Main Street in Tahoe City from Walter Bickford in 1920. Walter was Sadie Bickford Morrow's brother. The lumber yard is the present location of the Truckee-Tahoe Lumber Company. In the purchase was included a garage which was called 'Sterra Garage' which he leased to Joe and Marie Henry. Stella worked in the garage on the books two years before it was leased. He bought a saw mill located on Old Mill Road, north of Tahoe City from the Wheeler Estate sale in the Reno Courthouse. He employed seven or more men and provided housing at the mill for their families and a cook house for the single people.

Robert and Stella stayed in the old house which belonged to 'Aunt Mildred' (where the lumber yard is now) and they had a cook for the mill workers and had the sleeping rooms upstairs. At one time Robert worked in Alturas and Stella lived in the little cabin and she continued to do so until about 1950. When the sawmill closed, the Watsons lived in the mill hand cabins in summer and they built a year-round residence in Gold Hill in lower Placer County. It was a large house on 22 acres which was sold in 1961. They would leave the lake when the first snows fell. Robert and Stella took out divorce papers in 1936 but never picked up the final papers.

Robert sold a quarter section (160 acres) of his sawmill property to Dr. Fabian in 1950 (who created the Highland subdivision) but he kept 80 acres which included the land on which the logger's cabins stood. He was like his father and a great conservationist. He specified that the large Jeffrey Pine on Fabian Way not be cut down. It still stands at the edge of the street in the Highlands as a fitting memorial to a concerned old timer who loved Tahoe's natural beauty enough to be concerned about saving precious parts of it. In his logging practices, he would go to the extra work of having stumps removed for extra beauty of the forests and he would reforest. He once proposed to Robert S. Dollar, who owned all the land adjacent to his 'sawmill' property that the upper land behind the present Highlands be kept as a game refuge.

but it was never done. Robert always had to have one or two horses around taking them to Tahoe and back to Gold Hill in the Fall. He died in his winter home in Gold Hill in 1961 after an operation.

STELLA TONG WATSON

Born November, 1890, in Clarksville (now a ghost town) located in El Dorado County, she was one of four daughters and one son: William Wert Tong, then Mildred, Agnes, Stella and Irene. Mildred Tong married John Chester Scott of Squaw Valley and Stella's other sister, Agnes, married the other Scott brother, Herbert. The Scott Family owned 'Deer Park Springs' (located between Tahoe City and Truckee, now the 'River Ranch' and had a 2,000 acre cattle range out of Folsom. They would bring their cattle to Squaw Valley for the summer cattle range. Stella was 11 years old when she first came up to visit her sisters who were living in Squaw Valley.

Stella used to play with the two Watson sisters, Agnes and Edna, who lived in Tahoe City and that is how she met Robert H. Watson, their brother. She finished the 8th grade in Clarksville. As a 9th grade special student she passed an exam by the Board of Education to teach elementary school in Clarksville. She went on to Atkins College in Sacramento when she was 16 years old and lived at the YWCA. She married Robert when she was 18 years of age on June 2, 1909 in the Sacramento Congregational Church.

She drove the school bus from 1932 to 1946 at Lake Tahoe and was one of the first women bus drivers in the State of California and she received a pension from the state at retirement. She was strong willed, sharing, very outgoing, vivacious and she had a violent temper if things didn't go the way she wanted them. She was very generous with her time and very helpful taking care of the ill and people who were 'down and out'. She enjoyed embroidery but was too impatient for sewing. She was taught to knit during World War I for the Red Cross. She was always busy with community activities and was Clerk of the School Board for years, active on Liberty Bond Drives and took odd jobs like taking the census. She was a charter member of the Tahoe City Womens Club and liked to bake cookies and pies.

MILDRED WATSON COLLINS

Mildred was the only child of Robert and Stella Watson, born in 1910 in Clarksville, El Dorado County. Her parents were living in the little Watson Cabin in Tahoe City and they were one of the few families to live at the lake year round. She remembered that autos were put up on blocks in garages at the first snowfall and not brought out again until Spring.

Some of the other families who lived through the winters were the Postmistress, Jeannette Pomín Watson and her husband Bert Watson; Judge Evelyn Bliss and her husband, George, who sometimes operated the mercantile store on the Commons; Captain Hunkin who was Captain of the steamer 'Nevada', the Bliss Company Boat. He had the mail contract in winters to deliver three times a week. The Steamship 'Tahoe' took the mail around daily at other times of the year. Stella Watson's brother, William Wert Tong, had the mail contract from Truckee to Tahoe City and was obliged to pick up the mail at least three times a week. He owned the Tahoe Inn and operated it from 1908 to 1920.

Mildred remembered that Tom Hunkin was the only other kid in town for many winters and she would play with Tom's erector set, his train set and wind-up toys and loved them. She always had her paper dolls to make and play with and she had lots of picture books and drawing books which she colored with crayons. They had gasoline lamps and Mildred's mother, Stella, would read to her every evening for one hour before Mildred was sent to bed at 8 PM. Some years she had the bedroom directly over the kitchen or would switch to the room over the living room. Her father often built her toys and furniture for her doll houses and made her first skis. The wood was boiled on the kitchen stove, then c-clamped and bent just

right to form the tip. She started school in the first grade and all the classes were in the one room schoolhouse with a big wood stove in it to keep the children warm. It was required that there were five pupils to attend classes before they would be eligible to hold school.

She remembered that in the early years, others attending classes with her were Vivian Pomin (Ernie Pomin's daughter from Idylwild), Agnes Soll (older of the two Annie Soll daughters from the Ehrman Mansion, Sugar Pine Point), Nellie Pomin (Robert Pomin's sister) and Tom Hunken from Tahoe City (there were four in the Hunken family). Mildred went through the 8th grade at Tahoe Lake School and remembered that they had many practical mountain style oriented instructions in nature. One teacher, a Mr. McNeeley, helped them build an Eskimo Ice House and they built a fir bough house and had lessons inside. They raised a chipmunk family which thrived and finally disappeared. They had an old beat-up Tom cat who would come around to the children for handouts and affection. The teachers would teach for a couple of years and received \$125 per month. Their school hours for the little children were from 9 AM to 2 PM and for the big kids from 9 AM to 4 PM. If the weather was bad enough that they could not open the school, the children would have to make up the days missed in the Spring or on Saturdays.

Mildred left to attend high school at age 14 and had to live in Auburn. Her family sometimes would go to live in Auburn for the winter months or Mildred would board and room with friends for family. She said if you had the money, you didn't stay behind at Tahoe for the winter. The Tahoe Mercantile which was the Bliss-owned store (Bliss from Glenbrook) and Atherton's Grocery Store (which later became Kehoe's) were the only two stores in Tahoe City in the winter. Before the railroad came into Tahoe City, mail was delivered and picked up with two horses and a sled. Two horses would be kept in Truckee and two in Tahoe City so fresh horses would be exchanged at the end of the trip each way.

Mildred finished high school in Auburn and attended UC Berkeley, graduating with a BA in Art. She remembered when she was in high school that the road was usually open from Truckee to Tahoe City unless there was a storm and the winters being long and without fresh meat and many of the staple goods. Everyone lived on fish and set their minnow traps out in the lake. Mr. Saunders, the Game Warden, was considerate. He used to call on the phone in the winter before coming to the lake to patrol the waters. He had so many places to go every six weeks in winter. In the summer his visits were more frequent and without warning.

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North Lake Tahoe Historical Society

WINTER

NEWSLETTER

1996-1997

FROM THE PRESIDENTS CORNER.....

Winter is Upon Us Once Again - With a Vengeance! Three wet winters in a row is unprecedented in the weather records, which go back to 1888, but that is what mother nature has presented us with this winter. Heavy snow prior to Christmas provided excellent skiing and a beautiful Christmas Day, but heavy rain over the New Year Holidays has resulted in extensive flooding and mud slides along the Truckee River from Tahoe City to Truckee to Reno. All this, and 'winter' officially is only a month old! We are happy to report that the Gatekeeper's Museum and the Watson Cabin have survived thus far without any major problems to the structures, although the large carved sign at the Gatekeeper's entrance was shattered during the 100 mph winds of the storm.

At the October Board of Directors meeting, the newly elected board members for 1996 began their three-year terms. The new members of the board are: Sharon Cowley, Jim and Betty Corison, Bob and Dodie Scoville, Peg and Ted Lewis, Ken Jones, Carol Van Etten, Kerry Drury, Alan Pineschi, Lilian Kimble and Jim Lawson.

Planning is already underway for the fund-raising events for the coming summer, beginning with a second "A Little Music, A Little History and A Little Dinner" in conjunction with the Lake Tahoe Summer Music Festival on Sunday, June 29th, followed by our annual Dinner & Dixieland on Sunday, July 20th. The House Tour is set for Thursday, August 14th.

The fund-raising events are extremely important to our financial well-being since they provide close to one-third of our annual income. Your support of these events is greatly appreciated. Please mark your calendars with the above dates - we hope to see you there.

Don and Jeanne

Don & Jeanne Davis
Co-Presidents

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Beverly & Dean Adkins
William C. Callender
Sisi & Bert Damner
Deborah Debow & Herb Weissman
Donna D. Haas & Mark A. Young
Cheryl & Harvey Hall
Shirley & Gene Raymond
Helen & John Strickley
Suzanne & Peter Voll



Nina Aoni
Connie Cole
Katherine & Philip Day
Peggy & Reid Dennis
Mr. & Mrs. George Hall
Ann & John Platt
Mardy & Ned Robinson
John H. Tiedemann
Carol & Bard Wilmar



A LITTLE HISTORY.....

(The letter following is from the correspondence between Robert Montgomery Watson and James Moffit and the collection is in the Ellen Attardi Library.)

Tahoe, Cal. Dec. 17 - 1924

Dear James, I Recd your letter and the Pictures a long time ago they were fine. I love to think of that trip up Dicks Peak on the 5th of July. also of the lone sentinel gaurding the Pass now covered with snow. we have about 1½ feet here just good sleighing and Ther- at zero this morning are you and Mrs. Moffitt coming for the Holly Days as you spoke about when here last. Say James, I want to have you tell your Father in law (the good old scout) about our Indian Rock. we have known of it for years, was about 150 yards from the outlet of the Lake near end of standard oil warf was never known in memory of white man to be out of water before, so Rob and myself with other Help jacked it up on Blocks. got it on His truck (weighs about 2 tons) and carted up under the big Pine by Robs Log House (Ed: our Watson Cabin Living Museum) it has three Deep mortar Holes for grinding acorns. that Proves that at one time the Lake was for a long Period much lower than white men have ever seen it and it was the only flat Rock in the vecinity that they could use for mortar Holes

I know it will Interest E. G. Schmidell and many others who come Here in the summer time. well it rests now overlooking whare for many Centurys it must have been emersed you will see it if you come up if not will send you Pictures of it well James let me know if you are coming with Best wishes to all

Sincerely

RM Watson

(the letter is spelled and punctuated exactly as possible.)

The grinding stone that is now in the fenced area between North Lake Blvd. and the Watson Cabin was, at one time, moved to the Watson-Collins property on Old Mill Road and returned to the cabin on the lake when the Historical Society took over the building.

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Along with many other historic items, Ellen St. Sure Lifschutz has now donated the Steamer 'Tahoe' sign, the Union Iron Works builder's plaque and the head lamp from the Truckee-Tahoe narrow gauge train to the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society. They were previously on loan. Following is the history of how they were saved as written by Mrs. Lifschutz:

The 'Tahoe' sign, Union Iron Works plaque and Engine lamp were all the properties of my mother, Elizabeth Bliss St. Sure, granddaughter of Duane L. and Elizabeth T. Bliss. Although born in Oakland in 1899, she spent her childhood at Hobart Mills, near Truckee, where her father, C. T. Bliss, was manager and later at the Tahoe Tavern, of which he was also manager. She, herself, owned property south of the Tavern where she spent summers to the end of her life.

Her attachment to the Tahoe of her childhood was strong and proprietary. She quite literally felt that, as the last "Bliss" on the California side of the Lake, everything and anything from the "old days" not claimed and cher-

ished by someone else was hers to take. And, so she took these artifacts from the Steamer 'Tahoe' and the little old engine in the late 1930s when both were, more or less, abandoned on the Tahoe City waterfront. My sister, Beth, and I were with her and Dr. Gerard Gray when they "boarded" the dry-docked ship for the last time before its sinking, and "salvaged" the sign and plaque*. She may have had permission to do this from her uncle, Will S. Bliss, who was then re-purchasing the ship in order to give it "a decent burial" in the Lake. But, in any case, she felt they were both (train and ship) Bliss properties and therefore hers. And most fortunate for the North Lake Tahoe museum and lovers of Tahoe history that she did, or there would be no extant local reminders of the little old train and the great ship.

Sign, plaque and lamp were at our cabin at 740 West Lake (my mother's originally) until I sold the property in 1994.

*The late Dr. Gray was then building a ski-house at Sugar Bowl and also salvaged various things from the ship including, as I recall, its bar stools for use in his Sugar Bowl chalet. They were bolted to the floor so they might still be there.

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Patricia Bernard and her husband, Robert E. Bernard, were longtime members of the Historical Society and serving a three-year term on our Board of Directors when Pat suffered a devastating stroke and died in September, 1996. Her loss is keenly felt by our Board and her many friends and family. Following is a list of people who sent donations to our Endowment Fund in her memory:

Alpine Meadows Ski Corporation
Eddy & Osvaldo Ancinas
Carolyn & Clay Bedford
Nelson A. Bennett
Miriam & Lou Biro
Charlene Broga
Mary W. Chappell
The Crothers Family
Diane & Jim Fisher
Dolores & John Geyer
Joan & Dick Haber
Jacqueline & Terry Hawa
Alan Herzig & Jeanne D. Wohlers
Jody & Joe Jones
Mary Jane Laity
Dr. & Mrs. Joseph H. Lesser
Pat & Vernon Lucas
Judy & Bill Michaelson
Nancy S. Mueller
Millie & Lou Oppenheim
Nancy & Marty Stiles & Family
Tat & Wayne Welcome
Virginia & Joe Woods

Avis & Nick Badami
Edie & Vladimir Bazjanac
Georgene & Seymour Behlman
Patricia Ann & Kristian Berg
Fritzi & Bill Briner
Marjorie & Philip Bush
Jean & Drury Cooper
Ann L. Dessert
Wayne & Andrew Gensey
Mary & Lee Gillett
Barbara Heard & Family
F. Warren Hellman
R. & J. Hubber-Richard
Jean Kjar
Joseph H. Lausmann, Jr.
Rosemary & Larry Lindsey
Kathryn & John McGinis
Barbara & Eddie Mozen
Kazuo Ogawa
Betty & Albert Perreault
United States Skiing
Carolee & Howard White
Yuni Yamamoto



ENDOWMENT FUND DRIVE

We would like to thank all of the generous and supportive members and friends of the Historical Society who sent in donations for our Endowment Fund Drive of November, 1996. They are:

The Prudential California Realty	Donna & Jack Macey
Shirley & Louis Kearn	Ann K. Lenway
Alice & Harold Furst	Barbara & Win Benner
Lisa Roberts(Rubicon Technology)	Peggy & James Long
Pat & Bob Crosbie	Dora Dodson
Phyllis & Malcolm Jayred	Mary & Jack Stirton
Peggy & Reid W. Dennis	Dody & Bob Scoville
Vera Long	Joseph V. Facha
Carol & Charles I. Daniels, Jr.	Margaret M. Sisk
Barbara & Ron Lichter	Sandy & Homer Hayward
Robin Elledge	Mrs. August H. Schilling
Pauline & R. W. Abbe	Jim Loughlin
Barbara & Gerald McCue	Ann & John Platt
Clara & Robert B. Martin	Anne & Robert Levison
Rosemary & Larry Lindsey	Maryon Davies Lewis
Ellen & Gilbert Magnani	Hope & John Sheehey
Shirley White(in memory of Paul White)	Annette & Fred Gellert, Jr.
Marion & John Robotti	Virginia & James Nakada
Anonymous	Monica Mary March
Robert E. Bernard	Cynthis Collinsworth
Barbara & Locke W. Turner	Karen & Bernd Bremer
Jacque & Don Mielke	Norma & Gerald Watkins
Anne & John Hetland	Mr. & Mrs. Robert B. Shea
Nancy & Bob Shurtleff(in honor of Carolyn Johnson)	Theresa & Thomas Berry
	Elizabeth & Ralph Peer, II

Our Endowment Fund is now over \$43,000.00 in cash, mutual funds and stocks. Our Endowment Committee is chaired by Bob Dolton with members: Don & Jeanne Davis, Bob Dobbins, Hugh Harris, Earl Marr, Miriam Biro, and Ken Jones

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MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In memory of Willis E. Scott from: 'The original bridge group of Rosemary Lindsey, Beccy Shontz, Dody Scoville and Dottie Intorf; Jane & Bill Sumner; Miriam & Lou Biro

In memory of Hans Felsch from Gene & Nancy Mooring; Miriam & Lou Biro

In memory of Marjorie B. Scheller from Marjorie A. Smith

In memory of Chip Matcham from Rosemary & Larry Lindsey; Miriam & Lou Biro

In memory of Janet Schei from Mary & Pat Harrington; Miriam & Lou Biro

In memory of Molly & Dick Pegg from Mary & Pat Harrington

In memory of Mrs. Brooks Walker from Gwendolyn & Robert Cheesewright

In memory of Jean Minasian from Gina & Harry Brix

In memory of Merilyn Hills Horning from Doryce & Don Wells

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A FREE ONE-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION TO "SIERRA HERITAGE" MAGAZINE.....

Janice L. Forbes, the Publisher of 'Sierra Heritage' magazine has made a most generous donation to the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society of fifty one-year subscriptions to her excellent and beautiful magazine to raise money for our Endowment Fund. Our Endowment Fund Committee has voted to give the first fifty members who sign up a new member or renew at the \$100 patron level a gift subscription, value \$20.

This fine magazine, covering the Sierra Region, features many articles on the history of Lake Tahoe, Truckee and the Gold Country. It is so well done that we have saved the issues and have them available for research in our Ellen Attardi Library.

If all of our members would bring in one new member we would double our membership and support.

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NEW ACQUISITIONS

"Bill" Dewhurst has donated four turn-of-the-century Native American baskets including a small Washoe bowl, fancy 'Degikup'; small single rod Washoe bowl and two Pomo gift baskets, all in excellent condition and truly beautiful.

Peggy Hartshorne has donated eight baskets that have been in her family since the turn-of-the century, most representing the Southwest along with Maidu, Chumash, Western Apache and Jicarilla Apache, Pima and Papago.

These baskets will be on display next summer.

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ARE YOU PLANNING A FAMILY REUNION, PICNIC, WEDDING OR SPECIAL PARTY?

Remember that William B. Layton Park is available for special events with pre-registration. It is not a fee, but a tax-deductible donation that you make to rent the park. This is a day-use area and we do not have lighting for night events. While the weekends fill up very fast, weekdays are usually open and a great time to be at the park. For further information, please call Miriam Biro (916) 583-1762 between 11 A.M. and 5 P.M. daily.

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WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

For members who are interested in being volunteers at the Watson Cabin Museum, Gatekeeper's Museum and Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum, a two-day class will be offered in late April or early May. Please contact Miriam Biro or Betty Long (916-583-1762). There are many ways to volunteer, including greeting people and manning the gift shops, leading tours, cataloging, helping with fund-raising events, outside work in the park and much more. Being a volunteer is a wonderful way to meet people, represent your Historical Society and learn more about our local history.



NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPRING

NEWSLETTER

1997

FROM THE PRESIDENTS CORNER

The Gatekeeper's Museum has been undergoing its annual spring cleaning and everything is spick-and-span ready for the official opening on May 1. The trap-door and stairs to the basement have been moved from the gift shop area to just in front of the fireplace. This has permitted us to have significantly more space for displaying gift shop items. Lou Biro has constructed new display shelves for the area.

In accordance with our new ByLaws, the following persons have been nominated for election to the Board of Directors for a three-year term beginning in October, 1997: Kathy Tavernier, Carolyn Johnson, Earl and Marjorie Marr, Gloria and Bud Novack; also nominated to serve their second consecutive three-year term are: Bob Bernard, Bob and Bobbie Dolton and Sharon Cowley.

Please drop in to the Gatekeeper's Museum this summer to see the numerous new additions to our collections. Of special interest are four spectacular baskets donated by 'Bill' Dewhurst from her mother, Annie Soll's collection; eight turn-of-the-century Southwest baskets donated by Peggy Hartshorne and a scale model of the Steamer 'Tahoe' made by Don Willoughby, using plans from our archives. The extraordinary collection of John Muir's inscriptions, letters and manuscripts, on loan from Ralph and Joyce Grunauer, is on display.

We hope to see you at as many of our Fund-Raiser Events as possible this summer. These events are extremely important to us financially, providing nearly one-third of our operating income and your support is greatly appreciated.

Don and Jeanne Davis
Don & Jeanne Davis
Co-Presidents

THE WATSON CABIN NEEDS HELP

As you, our members, know, the historic Watson Cabin is the oldest structure built on-site in Tahoe City and it is listed on the Nation Register of Historic Homes. Completed in 1909, this building is in urgent need of structural repairs. There is no foundation, and, throughout the 88 years it has stood through storms and gale winds, the stone chimney and fireplace have literally moved away from the house. Carpenter ants have made some of the logs into shells and these have to be replaced(as others have been in the past).

This charming and historic home is one of Tahoe City's treasures and should last another 88 years and more if we can make the repairs so critically needed. There are no funds for this project at the time of this newsletter and we do not have the \$45,000 estimated to complete the repairs. We ask you to give us financial help. We will talk to local organizations to seek their help as well. Please send your tax-deductible donations to the N.L.T.H.S. Watson Cabin Fund.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

LINDA & DAVID COWARD
TERRY & LOWELL LASH
SALLY & GILBERT SCOTT

BARBARA GREEN
MARILYN & JOHN POTTER
KIMBERLY & SPENCER SOKALE

TERRY & KENNETH YAGURA

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MEMORIAL DONATIONS

IN MEMORY OF MARY LOUISE SCHMITZ from Helen and Peter Smith

IN MEMORY OF INEZ BRIX from Virginia and Walter Crinnion

IN MEMORY OF WILLIS E. SCOTT from Gwen and Dick Clarke

IN MEMORY OF PAT CROSS from Bernie and Bill Bechdolt

IN MEMORY OF KEN (KERMIT) LANE, JEANNE SPITSEN McINTYRE and JACK AND JEAN HOLLEY from Betty and Ned Long

IN MEMORY OF JEANNE SPITSEN McINTYRE from Bernie and Bill Bechdolt

IN MEMORY OF MARSHALL RUHKALA from Bernie and Bill Bechdolt

.....

SPECIAL DONATION

A SPECIAL DONATION FOR THE MUSEUMS WAS RECEIVED FROM THE NORTH TAHOE MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT BODY

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ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS

MRS. AUGUST H. SCHILLING
CONSTANCE KOCH
ROBERT A. STONER
MURIEL & HUGH HARRIS
FRAN & JOE DRURY

CORENE & DICK ADAMS
JOAN & LLOYD DYER
MARY & GRAHAM B. DAVIS
SHIRLEY & LEONARD FRIERMAN
BARBARA & HERBERT HALL

HENRY A. STEINBACH

Our Endowment/Finance Committee, chaired by Bob Dolton is delighted to report that we now have over \$53,000 of the \$250,000 goal we have set. Please remember that there are many ways to donate to this fund, including cash donations, deferred gifts, bequests, bequests as memorials, restricted bequests, residuary beneficiaries, all of which are tax deductible. If you wish further information please call us at (916) 583-1762 or write to the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society at P.O. Box 6141, Tahoe City, CA 96145.

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Our Gatekeeper's Museum/Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum's GIFT SHOP has been enlarged and improved and it is filled with many wonderful books on Lake Tahoe history, Video tapes of the Lake and of Basketry, children's books, kits and games. We have fine books on wildflowers, birds, geology, the Donner Party and so much more. Special miniature beaded bottles by Audrey George Fralinger and pine needle baskets by many artists are also on display as are James Bell's vintage Tahoe prints and Indian prints. Members receive a 10% discount on everything in our gift shops.

**NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SUMMER, 1997 - SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

- MAY 1 TO OCTOBER 1 GATEKEEPER'S MUSEUM, MARION STEINBACH INDIAN BASKET MUSEUM & WILLIAM B. LAYTON PARK OPEN. HOURS:
5/1 through 6/14 and 9/2 through 9/30 open Wednesday through Sunday 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.
6/15 through 9/1 open daily 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.
- JUNE 15 TO LABOR DAY WATSON CABIN LIVING MUSEUM OPEN DAILY 12 P.M. TO 4 P.M.
- SUNDAY, JUNE 29 THE SECOND ANNUAL "A LITTLE MUSIC, A LITTLE HISTORY, A LITTLE DINNER" PRESENTED JOINTLY WITH THE LAKE TAHOE SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL AT WILLIAM B. LAYTON PARK AT 3 P.M. DONATION \$25 PER PERSON TO BENEFIT BOTH OF OUR ORGANIZATIONS. CHAMBER MUSIC/TOUR THE MUSEUMS. FINE WINES DONATED BY THE CHARLES I. DANIELS FAMILY'S 'REDWOOD VINTNERS'. VALET PARKING/BY RESERVATION
- SUNDAY, JULY 20 ANNUAL 'DINNER & DIXIELAND' MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND PARTY, FEATURING LIVE MUSIC. DONATION \$25 PER PERSON.
Meeting: 3:30 P.M., No Host Bar: 4 P.M. Dinner: 5 P.M. Valet Parking. Space Limited/by reservation
- WEDNESDAY, JULY 23 BEGINNING/INTERMEDIATE PINE NEEDLE BASKET WEAVING CLASS FROM 9:30 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. BETTY AND PEGGY LONG INSTRUCTORS. PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED WITH A DONATION OF \$20 PER STUDENT. CLASS LIMITED TO 20
- THURSDAY, AUGUST 14 ANNUAL HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. WITH SPECIAL WINE & CHEESE TASTING (PRESENTED BY REDWOOD VINTNERS AND FEATURING OUTSTANDING WINERIES). HOMES ON THE WEST SHORE. RESERVATIONS FOR MEMBERS ONLY WITH LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE. NO SEPARATE RESERVATION FORMS WILL BE SENT. DONATION: \$35 PER PERSON.
- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 DINNER CRUISE ON THE 'TAHOE GAL', DONATED BY NORTH TAHOE CRUISES, MERLE AND JUDY LAWRENCE. THIS THREE HOUR CRUISE, FROM 6 P.M. TO 9 P.M. IS THE MOST DELIGHTFUL WAY TO SAY FAREWELL TO SUMMER AND IS LIMITED TO 100 GUESTS. FIRST COME/FIRST SERVE AND THE DONATION FOR CRUISE AND DINNER (NO-HOST BAR) IS \$40.

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OUR FUND-RAISING RAFFLE'S GRAND PRIZE WILL BE TWO ROUND TRIP TICKETS FROM 'RENO AIR' AND 'LAKE TAHOE TRAVEL' FOR ANY OF RENO AIR'S WEST COAST DESTINATIONS. MANY OTHER VERY SPECIAL PRIZES INCLUDE VACATIONS, DINNERS FOR TWO, GOLF AND SKIING PASSES.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR STUBS AND THE DONATION IS SIX TICKETS FOR \$5.00.

A LITTLE HISTORY.....

Excerpts from 'SUNNYSIDE DAYS' Recollections of my childhood at Tahoe by Kathryn Kendrick McNeil:

Tahoe Tavern was the heartbeat of the lake in the Thirties. It was a mile and a half from our house. You could reach it by a pretty trail along the lake. Emerald lawns and flower beds of Canterbury Bells and Columbine that grew three feet tall graced the walks and foundations of this beautiful old hotel. In those years the Tavern had the only swimming pool, the only movie theatre, bowling alley, formal dining room and Fashion Show on the lake. From the Tavern Pier the aristocratic steamer 'Tahoe' sailed each day to circle the lake. Its captain always in gold braid and white flannels held a distinguished position in lake circles. Occasionally he acknowledged my father over the loud speaker as he cruised down our bay booming out, "Good Morning, Major Kendrick". One of us would dip the flag in response. This pleasant salutation stopped after a swamping given his passengers by our 250 HP Garwood speedboat, the "Navajo". The steamer's gracious, slow-moving hulk and well-dressed passengers were too tempting a target for my brother, Charles.

The Fashion Show held once a summer was the height of the social season for the ladies of the lake. It was amazing to see older sisters and their friends suddenly groomed and glamorous modeling the latest summer fashions.

Movies in the Tahoe Tavern were much more fun. Everyone was there and often an exciting scene would be interrupted by the swooping of bats at the screen. As I grew older, having a movie date at the Tavern was next to Heaven. Heaven was dinner-dancing at Cal-Neva Lodge.

The Fourth of July was Racing Day. All kinds of boats competed in their classes. They were stripped down for speed with all unnecessary luxuries removed. Two occupants were permitted to race in each boat and sometimes lightweight sisters were invited along. Life preservers were always worn, which added to the thrill of possible danger. A gun was fired from the pier at the start and a flag boat waved at the finish. We won First Prize for a few years and it was a thrill to see Charles and Marron speed by the pier to the applause of the crowd.

Once a summer all the boats on the lake dressed up with lights and lanterns for a "Night in old Venice". The Tavern pier was their destination where prizes would be given for the most beautiful and original lighting. Old, poky cruisers lent themselves to this theme with their masts and cabins, and usually won all the prizes. I can still see in my mind's eye the lighted silhouettes of boats sailing up the lake these nights. There were dozens and dozens of them. All speeds, all shapes, all sizes were beautiful that night, magically transformed by lights.

Special thanks is due to Bob Kelgard Electric & to Dennis Hoffman Plumbing. Bob brought electricity to the storage shed which had been moved when the new fence went in. Dennis repaired the restroom facilities so that the bathrooms could be opened for the summer. Both of these special members donated their services. Kathy and John Betts spent several days helping to clean the park and parking lot. Students at the Squaw Valley Academy have also worked in the park, stacking wood and cleaning up the pine needles.

Syd Bartlett has worked very hard to get the estimates for the Watson Cabin project and to find the very best person for each job. All we need now is funding (see page 1).

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Our expanded gift shop offers a new section of Native American books. The newest is "Beginning Washo" by William H. Jacobsen, Jr. and it is an introduction to the Washo language. Price \$5.00

For Railroad and History of California buffs we have the "Railroad Photographs of Alfred A. Hart, Artist" by Mead Kibbey. A treasure and it is \$55.00

A new release is the video tape "An Auto Tour of Lake Tahoe 1915" with photographs from the Pomin Collection. \$12.95 (not to be mistaken for the 1915 - 1930 Auto Tour tape we have sold for some time.

We also have just received some very special beaded miniature bottles by Audrey George Fralinger. These start at \$30 and up.

Remember that all members receive a 10% discount on everything sold in our gift shops.

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APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP

NAME: _____ SPOUSE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: () _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Types of Membership:	Contributing(Jr. & Sr. Citizens).....\$	15.00
	Sustaining.....\$	35.00
	Sponsoring.....\$	75.00
	Patron.....\$	100.00
		(or more)

Please make your tax-deductible check payable to:
 NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 POST OFFICE BOX 6141
 TAHOE CITY, CA 96145
 (916) 583-1762 for further information

We now have a FAX number. You can use (916) 583-8992

NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 1997

WE NEED YOUR HELP! AN APPEAL TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP

The strength and vitality of any organization is in its members. The NLTHS has been fortunate to have a dedicated and loyal membership, who, over the years has sustained and nurtured the growth of our museums and our involvement in the North Lake Tahoe community.

Along with this growth has come the need to broaden our membership to include others who share our interest in preserving our heritage. A broadened membership will also provide a painless way to meet our inevitably increasing financial responsibilities.

Our goal is to double our current membership in the next twelve months. To accomplish this difficult task we are seeking your help. If each member could get one friend or acquaintance to join the NLTHS, our goal would be readily achieved and the financial strength of the NLTHS would be significantly enhanced. We receive no public funds or grants and are funded entirely by memberships, museum donations and gift shop sales, and our summer fund-raising events. At the present, memberships provide approximately one-third of our annual income.

Members' benefits include a quarterly newsletter, a 10% discount on all items in our museum gift shops, free admission to the museums, invitations to our very popular 'Members Only House & Garden Tour' and advance notice of all upcoming events.

But, most importantly, membership in the NLTHS makes it possible for us to continue to preserve and present Lake Tahoe history for present and future generations plus helping to preserve and enhance the world-class Marion Steinbach Native American Basket Collection.

BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS THE FINEST WAY TO SHOW YOUR LOVE OF LAKE TAHOE

complete and send to: N.L.T.H.S. P.O. BOX 6141, Tahoe City, CA 96145 (916) 583-1762/FAX 916-583-8992
NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

NAME _____ SPOUSE _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE () _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP: Contributing(Jrs. & Srs.)....\$15.00 Sustaining....\$35.00
Sponsor....\$75.00 Patron....\$100 Benefactor....\$250.00 or more

IN ANSWER TO OUR 'A LITTLE HISTORY' SPRING 1997 COLUMN

A Letter from Henry H.(Holly) Rose, dated May 17, 1997:

Dear Mrs. Biro,

Thank you for the Spring Newsletter. I wish to comment on Kathryn McNeil's statement on the Steamer 'Tahoe'. The captains never dressed in white flannels nor did they use the loud speaker. The voice she heard was by Sam Neff, Purser and Public Speaker, who also made the trip more interesting with his humor and information.

The swamping of the Tahoe's passengers, some spray maybe, but captains take a dim view of such action.

A 'Night in Old Venice' may have been the 'Venetian Water Carnival', all lights, concessions, food, entertainment, and lots of people. Fancy food served upstairs in the Casino. I remember seeing a whole roast pig with an apple in it's mouth and red cherries for eyes with all kinds of food around the pig. Sincerely, Holly Rose

MEMBERS, CAN ANY OF YOU HELP?

This letter was received from Canada:

Dear Historian,

I am writing in hopes you may be able to help me trace a line in my family tree. In 1889 Nathan McNutt was living at Tahoe City, California. He was born in Nova Scotia about 1837, son of Phineas and Jane McNutt. He and his brother, James, born in Nova Scotia about 1848, moved to California and both apparently died in California.

Would you have any information concerning these people or their descendants? Maybe you could run an inquiry in a future publication.

Yours Sincerely, Glen McNutt, RR#1 Debert, Nova Scotia, Canada

.....
.....Our member, Jill Beede, has put the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society on her website. World Wide

Web:<http://www.tahoecountry.com/nlths/home.html>

We thank you, Jill, for making thousands of people aware of our museums

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Arden & Robert Bendorf
Cathy & Larry Bienati
Finette & Jim Carpenter
Sue & Steve Cherry
Phyllis & Jim Doris
Marilyn & Jim Estelle
Carolyn Friedman & Joseph Rothbart
Lynn E. Knoll
Sonia & Irwin Marcus
Luise & Roger Menges
Roger Ramseier & Donna Benner
Dave Shattuck(gift from Steve Glazer)
Tahoe Heritage Marine Museum

Shelby Best
Maria & James Bizzack
Pat Castellucci
Claudia Cate
Pamela & John Eisele
Jackie & Don Feinstein
Valia & John Hylin
Diane & Hubert Marcus
Nancy & Robert Markson
Cherie & Roger Morris
Binth Rustad
Jan & Bill Stamos

WELCOME NEW BUSINESS MEMBERS

Syd Bartlett Construction

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In memory of Ed Barnett from Katherine B. Murray
In memory of Norman "Duke" Watson from: Marilyn & Bob Fugazi, Lois Linn, Nancy & Homer Hayward, Beccy Shontz, Marjorie & Earl Marr, Mary & Pat Harrington, Patricia M. Scott, Barbara & Ray Jones and Dorothy Stenz.
In memory of Bill Scott from Marjorie & Earl Marr
In memory of Jim La Fortune from Gloria & Bud Novack
In memory of Christy Ann Miller from Marjorie & Earl Marr
In memory of Kathryn (Kay) Awalt Wheeler from Brenda & Bryte Johnson, Beth & Ed Grebitus
In memory of Jeanne McIntyre and Russell Graff from Betty & Judy Layton

SPECIAL DONATIONS

Marion Steinbach Indian Basket Museum from Marjorie & Wm. E. Joost

Oral History Program from: Mollie Sinclair, Theresa & Thomas Berry, Marilyn Taylor

Watson Cabin Fund from: Joan B. Clark, Joan & Roy Wood, Margaret & Joseph Harris, Joyce Griswold, Christine & Robert Feibusch, Marilyn Taylor, Muriel & Hugh Harris, Liz & Les Simmonds and Mary & Robt. Shea

Endowment Fund from Marilyn & Ross Bewley

Special Donations from: William J. Crandall, Frances & Robert Dobbins, Corene & Dick Adams

NORTH LAKE TAHOE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL NEWSLETTER 1997

FROM THE PRESIDENTS CORNER

Fall is Just Around the Corner: The summer season is over and the crush of visitors at the museum has begun to subside. Attendance at the Gatekeeper's Museum has been excellent this summer. Gift shop sales and museum donations have been outstanding and our summer fund-raising events have, again, been very successful.

The fund-raising events generate a substantial amount of our annual income and putting them on is no easy task. We are deeply indebted to the members of our Board of Directors, who worked long and hard to support each event.

Fall is a time of change, not only of the season, but for our Board of Directors as well. We have been Board President for two years and now it is time for us to turn that responsibility over to a new Board President, Carolyn Johnson. Carolyn has been on our Board in the past, and we know she will do an outstanding job in her new position. In addition we have five other Board members who are completing their second three-year terms this October and will be leaving the Board at that time. They have all contributed greatly to the growth of the museums and will be sorely missed. They are: Barbara and Ray Jones, Bob Dobbins, Jimalu Gott Davis and Gary Davis, Karen McBride Aguirre and Fil Aguirre, and Al and Jo Sperry.

Many of you were able to visit the museum this summer and see first hand the remarkable collections of both Indian Baskets and Tahoe Memorabilia that is on display. Your support is vital to the success and continued growth of the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society and your continuing interest is greatly appreciated.

We have enjoyed our tenure as Board President the past two years and wish to thank the Board, our Museum Director and the members of NLTHS for their continued support.

Donovan & Jeanne Davis, Co-Presidents

Here it is! - The Recipe that So Many of You Asked For at the House Tour

OLIVE CHEESE BALL

One 8 oz pkg. Cream Cheese	8 oz. Blue Cheese, crumbled
1/4 Cup Soft Butter or Margarine	2/3 Cup well-drained Chopped Olives
One Tabl.. Minced Chives	1/3 Cup Chopped Walnuts

Blend cheese and butter. Stir in olives and chives. Chill slightly for easier shaping. Form into ball. Roll in nuts. Serve with crackers.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

ELAINE & PAUL ANDERSON NANCY & MICHAEL ALVAREZ
TRACY & W. COOPER BARNETT MARILYN M. BATES
PAT & W. CRAIG BIDDLE JUNE & DON BISCHOFF
BARBARA & FRANK CLIFFORD
MRS. HANS J. (CELINA) FELSCH MARGARET & GEORGE FITZMORRIS
HAROLD FURST VIRGINIA & JOHN GASTON
MAGDALENE GROSS & RICARDO ORTIZ
ERNEST GROSSMAN & MARGARET LEWICKI
SYLVIA & M. J. HELLER MONIE & CAROL L. HOAG, JR.
BARBARA & ERIC JOHNSON
DEAN & MARIJANE JACOBS CARLETA & JACK JONES
JANE & LEE LAIRD CAROL & ALAN LARSON
BARBARA & BILL LOVELESS JULIE & STEVEN LORENZEN
MARILYN & DON LUTZ JEANIE & GORDON MACAULAY
ARDITH & HOWARD MARGULESS BETTY & KENNETH MARR
CATHERINE & PIERRE MARTINEAU RUTH & ROBERT MOELLER
JILL & LARRY MYERS SYBIL & FREDERICK PATTEN
MARDELL & CHUCK PHEIL JULIE & KIRK PUMPHREY
COLLEEN & GEORGE REYNOLDS LENORE H. RICHARDSON
SANDY SCHMITZ SHIRLEY & SAL SCURTI
DONNA & GERALD SILVERBERG NEREIDA & GEORGE SKELTON
JOYCE & FRED VANDERHOOF GERI & STUART YOUNT

SPECIAL DONATIONS

The 'Rascals in Paradise' party resulted in many donations to the NLTHS from everyone who attended and special donations from the following: Valerie & Norman Ciampi, Muriel & Hugh Harris, Steven A. Lapkin, Marie & Jim Lawson, Louise & Ben Lowell, Eva M. Rosenauer, Michael Schenone (Sunnyside Marina, Inc.), and John A. Wickland. Thank you all for your generosity and support.

The Tahoe Yacht Club Foundation held their 'Night At Old Tahoe' dinner party for 400 guests and their 'Mahogany Magic' Pot Luck Dinner and Raffle in our William B. Layton Park under huge tents with soft lighting and we received a check, in the amount of \$4,000 as a donation to the Historical Society. Special thanks go to Paul Walker and David Olson for their efforts on our behalf and to Melanie, who catered the elegant dinner, for her care of our park.

A bequest from the late Charles Ormrod (Chip) Matcham

A donation to the Watson Cabin Restoration Fund from Mary & Roy Ekrom

IN MEMORIUM

Our friends and members, Tahoma residents, Mariam and Michael Sodergren, were killed in a huge landslide in Australia on July 31st. Mariam was the daughter of Virginia and Ed Barnett. A very special couple, loved and admired by all who knew them, their loss has been devastating.

Memorial services were held in Australia and Seattle. A Memorial service at William B. Layton Park featured principal speakers, Barclay Moore, Rev. Guthrie Swartz, Brad Spalding (from Australia), the Barnett and Sodergren Families, and many of the 400 guests also recalled special memories. The sun shown through billowing clouds and a brilliant blue sky as we said goodbye to Mim and Mike.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In memory of Mariam & Michael Sodergren from: Beccy Shontz; Marlen & Evelyn Sims; Dorothy & Arnold Intorf; Miriam & Lou Biro; Rosemary & Larry Lindsey; Betty & Ned Long, Julia Molloy, Darcy & Charles Seals, Ruth & Ted Johanson

Honoring the memory of David Berelson, on the anniversary of his birthday, from Bobbi Wiltsek

In Memory of Kay Wheeler from Annette & Fred Gellert, Jr. and Martha MacLaughlin & Family

In Memory of Rett Turner from Henry Steinbach and Betty Majors

In Memory of Bernice Giannini from Kathie & Joe Hoxsie, Bernie & Bill Bechdolt

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

From the Gertrude D. Strong family are three lovely Washo baskets, circa 1930s, which are now on display. From Jonathan Langdon, we have received a silver plaque dated 1915, to Duane L. Bliss, Jr. from his friends, employees of Lake Tahoe Railway and Transportation Company and Tahoe Tavern' and signed by about 70 Tahoe City pioneers including E. J. Pomin, George R. Bliss, R. M. Watson, E. Hunkin, C. A. Bechdolt and many more. Also donated by Mr. Landon are five photographs circa 1880, all depicting the lumbering business at Lake Tahoe (probably taken at Glenbrook.)

On loan from Joyce and Ralph Grunauer are three more, recently acquired, manuscript pages, handwritten by John Muir and added to the display of original letters, inscriptions, manuscripts and first edition books of John Muir.

A basket made by Washo Elder, Agnes Pete, around 1930 has been on loan to the Society for the past sixteen years. The owner, Lesla Swan Atkinson, has just donated this basket to us and it is on display.

From Linda Bentz (via Gloria and Bud Novack) come two fascinating studies. The first is 'Emerald Bay Barges - Archaeological Survey 1989 - 1990 by Sheli O. Smith, California Department of Parks & Recreation about the history of the sunken barges in Emerald Bay. The second is an excerpt from the "This Bittersweet Soil" regarding the Chinese experience in Truckee in the 1870s. Both are available for study in our Ellen Attardi Research Library.

Donna and Richard Wallrich donated a heater from the old Brockway Springs Resort.

We are honored to have on loan five baskets from the Jessie C. Durant collection of her Mono Lake Paiute family; a water jug and cooking basket used by her family (circa 1919) and a magnificent sedge root fancy basket (circa 1930s), both made by her grandmother, Nellie Charlie; a delicate willow basket woven and beaded in 1956; and an unfinished basket hat made in the 1940s by Mrs. Durant's great aunt, Tina Charlie.

MARIAN B. BELL RETURNS AFTER 50 YEARS

Carol Fisher presented the bell from the 'Marian B.' to Co-Presidents, Jeanne & Don Davis after 56 years in the James F. Cooper family's collection. Mr. Cooper was a mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service in the early 1940's. He delivered mail by train and one of his routes stopped off in Truckee. Curious about Tahoe's mail-by-the-lake delivery system, he trekked to Tahoe to find the owner of the boat and ask for a ride.

While on the trip around the lake in the 'Marian B.' with Arthur Brodehl, the ship's owner, Cooper was fascinated by the boat's bell. He asked Brodehl if he could trade the bell with a brand new one he had from San Francisco and Brodehl agreed. The 'Marian B.' bell rang in the start of a 3,000 bell collection for Cooper. This bell and the current collection of artifacts from the ship will be in a new display for the 1998 season. (ed. note: We have just received a letter from Gordon E. Pelton whose father was also a Railway Postal Clerk who worked on the Marian B. and has photos and quite a history. The history and photos will add to our display).

DINNER & DIXIELAND

THE 'DINNER & DIXIELAND' ANNUAL MEETING AND PARTY WAS HELD AT THE ELEGANT LAKEFRONT HOME OF SHELBY BEST AND THE 200 PLUS WHO ATTENDED ENJOYED THE VIEW, PERFECT WEATHER, DINNER AND MUSIC BY THE AL SHAY COMBO. SPECIAL THANKS TO BETTY LONG, KATLIN & STEVE HECOX, DAN GUTOWSKY (WHO FLEW DOWN FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO BARTEND), JIM AND MARIE LAWSON, PEG AND TED LEWIS, DON AND JEANNE DAVIS FOR THEIR HELP ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT.

THE HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR

HELD ON THE WEST SHORE THIS YEAR WAS THE EARLIEST SELL-OUT EVER. THE VARIETY OF HOMES, WINE & CHEESE TASTING WERE ENJOYED BY ALL ON A BEAUTIFUL DAY, AND THE HOMES BELONGED TO DEBBIE & JOHN MALOOF, CAROL & BILL KAUFMANN, THE JOHNSON-SWARTZ-BOORD FAMILIES, MURIEL AND HUGH HARRIS, SISSY & BERT DAMNER, SUE & STEVE CHERRY AND MARIE & JIM LAWSON. WE THANK YOU ALL FOR ALLOWING US TO TOUR YOUR LOVELY HOMES AND MAKING THIS THE MOST SUCCESSFUL FUND-RAISING EVENT EVER.

HOUSE TOUR VOLUNTEERS

MALOOF HOME: JO SPERRY, JERRE GOLDIN, NORA JAMES, LYNN POTTER, MURIEL HARRIS AND AL SPERRY

KAUFMANN HOME: GLORIA NOVACK, NETTIE SCHERMAN, LYNN FLAGG, BETTY FINEMAN, JOYCE GRUNAUER, SARAH MALIN AND RALPH GRUNAUER

JOHNSON-SWARTZ-BOORD HOMES: MARJORIE MARR, DONNA MACEY, EVA ROSENAUER, PATTY ROSENAUER ARDIL, MARGE MC COWN, BETTY CONNOLLY, LAURA DAVENPORT, JACK MACEY AND EARL MARR

HARRIS HOME: JEANNE DAVIS, BETTY LONG, BETTY CORISON, CAROL WILMAR, DON DAVIS, MIKE HAWKINS, BOB DOBBINS, HUGH HARRIS, AND REFRESHMENTS BY DIANA LARSON, FRAN DOBBINS AND BEVERLY WATSON. WINE TASTING DONATED BY THE CHARLES I. DANIELS, JR. FAMILY, OWNERS OF REDWOOD VINTNERS, WARREN HELMAN AND MICHAEL SCHILLER AND THE WINERIES: PEIRANO ESTATE VINEYARD, FERRARI-CARANO, OAK RIDGE VINEYARDS, TRELIS VINEYARDS, WHITEHALL LANE, GRANITE SPRINGS WINERY & VINEYARD AND TORANI SYRUPS.

DAMNER HOME: HELEN FORD, DODY SCOVILLE, JOAN RICHARDSON, JANE STERNE, ANNE PENNIMAN AND DOROTHY STENZ (WITH HOUSE CHAIRMAN, DOROTHY INTORF, CALLED AWAY AT THE LAST MINUTE BY A DEATH IN THE FAMILY).

CHERRY-LAWSON HOMES: PEG LEWIS, KATHY TAVERNIER, KATHLEEN ALLAN, PHYLLIS DORIS, MIRIAM BIRO AND TED LEWIS

DINNER CRUISE

DONATED BY JUDY AND MERLE LAWRENCE, THE 'FAREWELL TO SUMMER' DINNER CRUISE ON THE 'TAHOE GAL' WAS THE CROWNING FUND-RAISER. ALL OF THE GUESTS ENJOYED A LEISURELY CRUISE, A DELICIOUS DINNER AND A BEAUTIFUL EVENING. THIS IS THE FOURTH YEAR THAT THE LAWRENCE'S HAVE DONATED THIS CRUISE TO SUPPORT THE NLTHS.

1997 RAFFLE PRIZES AND WINNERS

ONE HOUR FREE CONSULTATION BY RGB HEATING, HYDRONICS & PLUMBING SERVICE
DONATED BY ROBERT G. BENNETT, OWNER WINNER: MARY JANE DEWHURST

MANICURE FROM 'ABOVE PAR NAILS' WINNER: BETSY BINGHAM

BABY QUILT, MADE AND DONATED BY SHARON COWLEY WINNER: ANN BUTTERFIELD

FREE LUBE, OIL & FILTER CHANGE AT TAHOE CITY CHEVRON
DONATED BY TOM ROSSI - TAHOE CITY CHEVRON WINNER: THOMAS BERRY

\$20 GIFT CERTIFICATE FROM THE 'CAFE COBBLESTONE' WINNER: TAT & WAYNE WELCOME

WHOLE SALMON CAUGHT & DONATED BY MIKE & SHARON COWLEY WINNER: JOANNE EMERSON

\$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE AT 'IKEDA'S' IN AUBURN DONATED BY GLEN IKEDA WINNER: MARIE WINTON

\$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE TOWARDS CUSTOM FRAMING AT 'FRAMES BY RYRIE'
DONATED BY RYRIE VALDEZ WINNER: MARILYN ESTELLE

\$20 GIFT CERTIFICATE TOWARDS A DINNER AT 'BACCHI'S' DONATED BY H.H. HUNTER WINNER: DICK MORTON

FUJI WATERPROOF CAMERA (GOOD FOR UP TO 9 FT. UNDERWATER) WITH FREE
PROCESSING IN 4 X 6 SIZE DOUBLE PRINTS - A \$42 VALUE
DONATED BY WALT KASS - BARIFOT PHOTOGRAPHY WINNER: DOROTHY MILLER

A 'TAHOE' GIFT BASKET DONATED BY JEANNE & DON DAVIS WINNER: LOIS LINN

A SECOND 'TAHOE' GIFT BASKET DONATED BY JEANNE & DON DAVIS WINNER: DAVE & JENNIFER ANTONUCCI

\$50 VALUE CONSULTATION, DEEP CONDITION, HAIRCUT, AND FOR WOMEN:
EYELASH & BROW TINT, OR FOR MEN: MUSTACHE, BEARD & NECK TRIM
DONATED BY WENDY RAE - SALON AT TAHOE WINNER: PEGGY LONG

A GOURMET GIFT BASKET CREATED AND DONATED BY 'GRATITUDES' GOURMET GIFT BASKETS
WINNER: BILL DAWSON

\$30 GIFT CERTIFICATE FROM 'SWEET PEAS' FLORIST WINNER: FRIEDA KLEIN

TWO DINNERS AT 'HACIENDA DEL LAGO' DONATED BY DIANNE SHONTZ WINNER: ROBERT MERRICK

TWO ADULT FULL-DAY LIFT TICKETS FOR TWO DAYS AT SKI HOMEWOOD
DONATED BY 'SKI HOMEWOOD' WINNER: MARY & PAT HARRINGTON

TWO 9-HOLE GOLF PLAY AT THE TAHOE CITY GOLF COURSE
DONATED BY BOB BONINO WINNER: BOB ERICKSON

A MACKINAW FISHING TRIP FOR TWO WITH THE 'FISHING GRANDMA'
DONATED BY: BOBBIE DOLTON, THE FISHING GRANDMA WINNER: PATRICIA ANN WOOD

FISHING CHARTER GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR 'BIG MACK CHARTERS' & BOTTLE OF
CABERNET SAUVIGNON DONATED BY MICKEY DANIELS WINNER: LAURIE KRUEGER

DINNER FOR TWO AT 'GAR WOODS' DONATED BY TOM TURNER - GAR WOODS
WINNER: JAMES E. MC CARTY

DINNER FOR TWO AT 'CHRISTY HILL, VALUE \$75 WINNER: MARTHA BERNARD

AUTOGRAPHED COPIES OF CAROL VAN ETEN'S 'TAHOE CITY YESTERDAYS' AND
'MEEKS BAY MEMORIES' DONATED BY CAROL VAN ETEN WINNER: MRS. COLBY COGSWELL

AUTOGRAPHED COPIES OF CAROL VAN ETEN'S 'PRE-WAR WOOD' & LAKERS & LAUNCHES
DONATED BY CAROL VAN ETEN WINNER: B. BENNER

DINNER FOR TWO AT THE 'TAHOE HOUSE', VALUE \$40 DONATED BY PETER, HELEN, BARBARA AND CAROLINE VOGT
WINNER: ERNIE GROSSMAN

CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH OR HISTORIC BREAKFAST CRUISE FOR FOUR ON THE M.S.
DIXIE DONATED BY BILL CHERNOCK - M.S. DIXIE WINNER: SHEILA STEVICK

DINNER FOR TWO AT THE CRYSTAL BAY STEAK & LOBSTER HOUSE
DONATED BY MICHAEL SAGE, GENERAL MANAGER WINNER: MARION ROBOTTI

\$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR DINNER FOR TWO AT SWISS LAKEWOOD RESTAURANT
RESTAURANT DONATED BY HELGA & ALBERT MARTY WINNER: ADRIENNE BANDAR

DINNER FOR TWO AT 'LE BISTRO' VALUE \$64.00 DONATED BY JEAN-PIERRE & SYLVIA DEIGNEN WINNER: ALICE SMETTS

DINNER FOR TWO IN THE 'LONE EAGLE GRILLE'
DONATED BY K. HEINZ GARTLEGRUBER, GENERAL MANAGER OF THE HYATT
REGENCY LAKE TAHOE RESORT & CASINO WINNER: NANCY BURKS

DINNER FOR TWO, VALUE \$75.00, AT 'JAKE'S ON THE LAKE'
DONATED BY RICH BROWN - JAKE'S ON THE LAKE WINNER: GLORIA BURKE

THREE DAY/TWO NIGHT MIDWEEK HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR TWO
AT CAESAR'S TAHOE HOTEL & CASINO DONATED BY MICHAEL J. DEIGHTON - CAESAR'S TAHOE
WINNER: LIZ SIMMONDS

TWO NIGHTS LAKE TOWER MIDWEEK VACATION AT 'HARVEYS RESORT HOTEL & CASINO'
DONATED BY 'HARVEY'S RESORT HOTEL' WINNER: B. BENNER

GRAND PRIZE WINNER

TWO ROUND TRIP TICKET VOUCHERS TO ANY WEST COAST DESTINATION OF 'RENO AIR'
DONATED BY RENO AIR AND LAKE TAHOE TRAVEL WINNER: NORMA WATKINS

THANK YOU TO ALL THE GENEROUS DONORS LISTED ABOVE!

WATSON CABIN VOLUNTEERS

With the end of the eighth summer of the Watson Cabin as a museum, please remember that none of it would have been possible without the efforts of our wonderful volunteers. This summer they were: Marge Bartlett, Phyllis & Bruce Bassett, Joan Clark, Betty Connolly, Laura Davenport, Phyllis Doris, Helen Ford, Barbara Kudrna, Mary Lou Linhart, Ginny Mariani, Marge McCown, Kathleen Peel, Beccy Shontz, Jo & Al Sperry, Beverly Watson and Carol Wilmar. Let us hope that we get them all back next year plus new volunteers so that we can keep the cabin open every day next summer!

GATEKEEPER'S CABIN AND MARION STEINBACH MUSEUMS

We had our best income summer ever and would like to give special thanks to Jeanne and Don Davis for their very professional display and cataloging work and their help with school tours.

Our accounting program was created by Don Davis and he has spent considerable time on improving our programs and reports. Aleta Drake has spent many hours teaching us how to use our other programs on the computer and we thank her for her kindness and patience. Aleta also donates her time and talents to cleaning our baskets.

Special thanks to Jo and Al Sperry for their help leading school tours and to Mike Hawkins for giving time in the gift shop almost every Saturday and to our ever-faithful Marjorie Marr who worked every Wednesday in our gift shop. Thank you all for your outstanding volunteer services.

ENDOWMENT FUND

We would like to update you on our Endowment Fund accounts building to our goal of \$250,000. We now have \$65,500 towards that goal. Should you wish to donate to this most important Fund, please make check payable to N.L.T.H.S Endowment Fund and mail to: NLTHS, P.O. Box 6141, Tahoe City, CA 96145.

WATSON CABIN RESTORATION FUND

We need to raise approximately \$45,000 to complete the essential repairs to preserve this historic log cabin, listed on the National Register of Historic Homes as the oldest house, built onsite, in Tahoe City (1909).

All income from the Watson Cabin sales and donations has been deposited in the fund and we now have over \$3,500. We are working to get matching funds and grants to complete the restoration. Your donations are needed! Please make your check payable to: NLTHS Watson Cabin Fund and mail to: NLTHS, P.O. Box 6141, Tahoe City, CA 96145.

A LITTLE HISTORY

(FROM THE 'TAHOE TATTLER' JULY 31, 1959)

EARLY COMMERCE AT TAHOE

As early settlements grew up on the shores of Lake Tahoe, young business moved in to supply the mountain pioneers. On the heels of the earliest business, which apparently was a hay ranch started in 1861 by a Thomas Wren near the Placer-El Dorado county line, came commercial fishermen, cattlemen, resorts and lumberjacks.

Dairying grew to sizable proportions at Tahoe between 1870 and 1900. Chroniclers of the 1880's report that "14 tons of butter are made annually in the Lake Valley, Davis and Noteware". Tahoe City hotel operators get four tons for the local trade to sell at 42 cents per pound. Ten tons go to Carson City, Virginia City and Genoa where they bring 10 cents more than other butters on the market because of their superior quality."

"Epicures lay in a season's supply of butter here and two cooper (barrel making) shops at the head of the lake are busy manufacturing firkins of white fir. Thirteen dairies thrive here in the summertime, averaging 100 cows each. In winters, the livestock is driven to California valleys." To supply this booming milk and beef production, a total of 800 tons of hay were grown in those days in the Lake Valley, principally by a man named only as 'Timothy'. Local stock ate the total output, "at \$30 a ton."

The fish business, though smaller in numbers of men employed, took tons of trout annually from the lake, which in the course of time led to serious depletion of the fish supply. Early reports list 20 to 25 men constantly fishing for the commercial market, averaging 45 to 60 pounds apiece per day. Fish sold at that time for a mere 15 cents a pound. Before state laws regulating game fishing were enacted in a belated effort to save what trout remained in California streams and lakes, anglers fished at all hours and all seasons: best time varied from month to month. A "large" catch was anything over 100 pounds in a day and the top recorded catch was 148 lbs... of trout in three hours, hauled from blue Tahoe by one Ben Coy.

Indians and Chinese brought to Glenbrook lumbering city trapped and seined every fish that ran up Tahoe tributary streams to spawn, a practice even then prohibited to white men. A few far-sighted oldsters of Tahoe planted trout in lakes throughout the basin, as early as the 1870's, famed John W. McKinney (founder of one of the oldest resorts at the lake) put small trout into Quail Lake at that early date. By 1881, with three to four pounders being caught there, he planted more. The Hunsucker brothers, who for years ran the Rubicon Springs Hotel, stocked Quail Lake with fish.

In 1873, the first telegraph line penetrated to Tahoe City, giving the lake its first high speed communication with the outside world. Early newspaper accounts say the line was strung by three men in 10 days, following closely the narrow, rocky wagon toll road from Tahoe City to Truckee. The first dispatch over the new line tells the story of its inauguration. "TAHOE CITY", Friday Evening, June 20, 1873 - The Truckee and Tahoe City line is completed. Great rejoicing and grand illumination and torchlight procession and a general jollification by the citizens and guests of the Tahoe Hotel. The line was built by two 'lightening strikers,' A. R. Schiveleyd of Truckee and A. A. Bayley of Woodland and connects with Western Union. Great credit is due to these enterprising men.