ECHOES FROM THE PAST

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Members:
What a wonderful year your society is having already! I am concentrating this letter on our need for volunteers and docents for the jail.

We were able to stay open every Truckee Thursday and weekends this past season because of the dedication of our docent group. Because of that we were able to bring in an increase of $750 dollars over the past year.

As you know, we are an all-volunteer group and that tends to take its toll by the end of the season. With our addition of more special events we are thinning out our pool of helpers constantly.

If you have even an hour to spare, these are the events we need help at:
May 16  – Schaffer Cemetery Cleanup Day. We need manual labor to help reset the posts and chains around the Cemetery and to clean weeds. 10:00 a.m. at the Cemetery
Ponderosa Townhouses.

May 25  – Memorial Day – Meet and Greet at Vet’s Hall, Noon to 2 p.m. and the Dog Tag Boogie, 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. We need people to help set up and clean up, and to socialize with the folks coming to these events.

June 7  – Work Day at the Old Jail Museum; Revamping the garden wall to prevent erosion and general clean up. 8 a.m.

July 11  – Truckee Air Show Set up starts at 8:00 a.m. http://truckeeaerioashow.com/. We will be hosting a second booth with the Friends of the Vet’s Hall and the Veterans for this special event. Need people to help man both booths.

Calender of Events:

May 16  – Schaffer Cemetery Cleanup 10 a.m.
May 25  – Annual Memorial Day Ceremony Sierra Mountain Cemetery, 10 a.m.
May 25  – after the Memorial Day Ceremony, Special Old Jail Museum Opening
May 25  – Meet and Greet Picnic noon - 2 p.m. Veteran’s Hall
Dog Tag Boogie 7 - 10 p.m., Veteran’s Hall

June 7  – Work Day at the Old Jail Museum
June 11  – Old Jail Museum Official Opening Day for Summer 2015 5 p.m.
June 12  TOAST (Truckee Open Artists Studio Tour) Click Off reception
More information TBA

July 11  – Truckee Air Show, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
July 16  – Truckee Thursday Volunteer Booth Night

July 18  – Old Timers’ Picnic and Truckee History Day at the Truckee River Regional Park, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Historical Art Show Veteran’s Hall 6 p.m. (More event info on page 7)

Inside this issue:
• Butterfly Exhibit moved - p. 2
• Was It A Real Ghost? A Mystery of the Sierras - p. 3
• Memorial Day Remembered - p. 4
• Truckee Street Named for WWII Veteran - p. 6

Continued on page 7
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* For those who prefer to pay at the beginning of each year

** For those who prefer a mid-year renewal and have their month reflect TDHS's 1968 incorporation and annual picnic month

Butterfly Exhibit Moved

For those of our readers who caught our March 2016 Echoes Issue 1 about the much-prized Ximena McGlashan butterfly collection, Link pp. 2-3, 6, http://bit.ly/1GaqNZ, there is an update of which you should be aware. With the expert and proficient help of the Donner State Park employees and several TDHS volunteers, the collection was moved in mid April 2015 from the "old" Donner State Park museum to its new home, the Parks and Recreation Community Center. Please stop by to see the new exhibit which now should be viewed by so many more inquiring eyes.

(Left) Photo courtesy of Heidi Spraat. The McGlashan Butterfly Collection in its new home.
TRUCKEE STREET NAMED FOR WORLD WAR II VETERAN
Heidi Sprout

Next time you drive by the intersection of Donner Pass Road and Levon Avenue, remember that the street was named in honor of World War II veteran, Levon Joseph Link; http://bit.ly/14bRedC

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USGENWEB FILE SOURCE LIST
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A quick look found 21 year old Levon Joseph enlisted 12/18/1941 and 25 year old Nick Sassarini enlisted 6/28/1943. For more information, you can see the list of World War II enlistments: Link; http://files.usgwarchives.net/cal/nevada/military/ww2/enlistment

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A MYSTERY OF THE SIERRAS.
The Sight That Unnerved Hank Small

The Specter That Haunted the Snowsheds of the Central Pacific — A Very Queer Story. Written for the Morning San Francisco Call, Vol. 72, No. 117 25 September 1892

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About 1 o’clock in the afternoon of March 19, 1888, there was a terrible accident on the Central Pacific Railroad at Truckee, between Cisco and Emigrant Gap, near the center of the twenty-nine miles of snowsheds owned by the company. It was a frightful collision. Westbound freight train No. 6 and an eastbound freight train came together. Four engines were badly wrecked, eighty feet of snowsheds demolished and four railroad men killed. Firemen Molin and Hoops and Brakemen Congreve and McMaster lost their lives. Several employees were seriously and frightfully wounded, among the number being Engineers Tricauo and Woolley.

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Continued on page 6
MEMORIAL DAY - May 27, 2013

It is not important who was the very first. What is important is that Memorial Day was established. Memorial Day is not about division: it is about reconciliation. It is about coming together to honor those who gave their life.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all the Northern states. The south refused to acknowledge the day, honored their dead on separate days until after World War I. Then the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war.

It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May, passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971 to ensure a three day weekend for federal holidays. Texas, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee and South Carolina have additional separate days for honoring the Confederate war dead.

Traditional observance of Memorial Day has diminished over the years. Many Americans nowadays have forgotten the meaning and tradition of Memorial Day. At many cemeteries, the graves of the fallen, who gave their life, are increasingly ignored and neglected. Most people no longer remember the proper flag etiquette for the day. While there are towns and cities that still hold Memorial Day parades, many have not held a parade in decades. In 2004, Washington D.C. held its first Memorial Day parade in over 60 years. Some people think the day is for honoring any and all dead, and not just those fallen in service to our country.

There are some notable exceptions. Since the late 1950s on the Thursday before Memorial Day, the 1,200 soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry place small American flags at each of the more than 260,000 gravestones at Arlington National Cemetery. They then patrol 24 hours a day during the weekend to ensure that each flag remains standing. Since about 1951 the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girls Scouts of America have been placing small flags at the grave sites of military cemeteries across America.

There are approximately 185 flags here [at the cemetery] that were placed by the Young Men and Women of the Truckee Civil Air Patrol Squadron. These flags do not represent the military men and women who gave their life, but who did serve in the military. I would like to take this time to remember three young Truckee men who served in World War II, who did make it back, and their remains were never returned. They are Jimmy Thomas, Levon Joseph, and Edwin Waters, whose 4 brothers also served at the same time: Roy, Erv, Orlan and Bill. These are the three that I remember. Our gravestones represent the Mexican War, Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, with all branches of the service, even from the French Foreign Legion.

To help reeducate and remind Americans of the true meaning of Memorial Day, the “National Moment of Remembrance” resolution was passed in December 2000 which asks that at 3 p.m. local time, for all Americans: “To voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence.”

The Moment of Remembrance is a step in the right direction to returning the meaning back to this day. What is needed is a full return of the original day of observance. Set aside one day out of the year for the nation to get together to remember, reflect, and honor those who have given their life in service to their country.

But what may be needed to return the solemn, and even sacred, spirit back to Memorial Day is for it to return to its traditional day of observance. Many feel that when Congress made the day into a three-day weekend with the National Holiday Act of 1971, it made it all the easier for people to be distracted from the spirit and meaning of the day. As the VFW stated in its 2002 Memorial Day address: “Changing the date merely to create a three day weekend has undermined the very meaning of the day. No doubt, this has contributed greatly to the general public’s nonchalant observance of Memorial Day.”

On January 19, 1999 Senator Inouye introduced Bill S189 to the Senate which proposed to restore the traditional day of observance of Memorial Day back to May 30th instead of “the last Monday in May.”

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Another reminder is that the disabled veterans are still making and selling the red poppies. Money raised from this venture was originally for war-orphaned children and widowed women. So if you see artificial red poppies for sale somewhere, that is the purpose.

Why poppies?

Inspired by Major John McCrae’s 1915 “In Flanders’ Fields” poem, humanitariaMona Michael responded with her own verse:

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That grows on fields where hero died,
IIt seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.

God Bless.

Sharon Pace Arnold

Former President, TDHS, 2000 - 2015

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LITTLE KNOWN TRUCKEE FACTS

Some of us may remember La Vieille Maison, the Truckee garlic restaurant famed in gastronomich circles. It was in the building now occupied by the 1882 bar/restaurant.

A famous Michelin 2 star chef and wife were the hosts/chefs, Robert Charles and Amora. Robert moved back to France and has since passed away. Amora (Higbee) stayed in Truckee and lives in Tahoe Donner.

Link: http://bit.ly/1Ar8RJAJ
MEMORIAL DAY - May 27, 2013

I'm remember coming here with my mom and dad, there was no grass, no water, just pine trees, pine cones and pine needles.

Just the 2 sides and I don't remember that one side was the Masonic and the other side the Odd Fellows.

Flowers were sent by railway express and we would pick them up at the freight depot, what is now called the Loading Dock.

We called it Decoration Day, and I got to thinking when did the name change to Memorial Day?

In my research I found it has been Memorial Day since 1868; took a while for the news to reach Truckee!

This is what I found on the Internet that I feel you will find of interest today.

Memorial Day History

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. There are many stories as to its actual beginnings, with over two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day. There is also evidence that organized women's groups in the south were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War.

Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966. It's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day. It is more likely that it had many separate beginnings as each of those towns and every planned or spontaneous gathering of people to honor the war dead in the 1860s tapped into the general human need to honor our dead. Each gathering contributed honorably to the growing movement that culminated in General John Logan, National Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, to issue an official proclamation in his General Order No. 11, on May 5, 1866, and first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.

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*(Left) Photo courtesy of Heidi Sprout. The McClashan Butterfly Collection in its new home.*

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**WWII Joseph article continued from page 6**

For those of you who are not aware of the Joseph family, a little background in order. Richard Joseph, early Truckee citizen, generous philanthropist, and entrepreneur, donated the land for Tahoe Forest Hospital in honor of his son LEVON JOSEPH who was killed in World War II. Richard Joseph worked as a barber and a photographer and eventually began to acquire property in Truckee. He developed the Gateway area including the Gateway Motel and Mall (where Safeway now stands) and owned and operated the Pastime Club on Commercial Row. Also, of note, Richard Joseph donated the land for the Tahoe Forest Hospital believing that his wife, who died of blood poisoning in 1922, might have lived had there been a hospital closer than Reno. Of note as well is that the “office cabin” of the Gateway Motel, built in the late 1930s was relocated to Meadow Park in the 1990s and is now the Joseph Research Library.

*Editor’s Note:*

In researching this article, the street sign was originally erected but misspelled as Maneve. It was later corrected at the request of Dick Joseph in 1975.

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**Photo extracted from DVD about the Joseph Family and its history of philanthropy and community involvement and dedication**

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**July 16 - Truckee Thursday Volunteer Booth. Set up at 3:00 p.m. We will need volunteers to man both the Historical Society Booth and the Info Booth as we are the Highlighted Non-Profit for that night. Festival Kick Off for TOAST - Truckee Open Artist Studio Tour Documentary Film Night. Fundraiser for Friends of the Truckee Veteran’s Memorial Hall. Selling tickets, popcorn, etc. Info TBA**

**July 18 - Old Timers’ and Community Picnic. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Set up starts at 9 a.m.**

**July 18 - Historical Art Show and Presentation. 5 p.m., Truckee Veterans Hall. Set up will start by 3 p.m. Need people to help set up and to be available during the show to help assist visitors.**

And of course we have our never-ending need for docents at the Old Jail Museum. It is becoming a very popular spot to visit and with the work being done to improve the driveway it will become even busier.

So if anyone can help, please contact me at cmortier@truckeehistory.org or kpape@truckeehistory.org.

Thanks as always for all your support. Chaun L. Mortier, President 2015

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**Continued from page 1**

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Additional information:

**September 22 - Membership Dinner at Marty’s Cafe 6 p.m.**

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**TDHS does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information in these articles. TDHS retains the right to republish submitted material. Please contact TDHS for permission to use any content in this publication.**
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* (a valid email address is required) ** Pay by Check or Credit Card (you choose your payment method)
For Renewals: Check if there are any changes below: (___) If known, your renewal month: (___)
MEMBERSHIP NAME: ___________________________ CITY, STATE, ZIP: __________
E-MAIL ADDRESS: ____________________________ CELL PHONE: __________________
HOME PHONE: _______________________________

Enclosed please find my check for: MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES (please check one)
Junior (under 18 yrs old) $10.00 Individual $20.00 Family $20.00 Business $40.00
Non-Profit Organization $25.00 Sustaining $75.00 Contributing $100.00 Other Donation $_____

SPECIAL DONATIONS: Gift Membership $______ In the Name of
MEMORIAL DONATION $______ In Honor of
Other $____ ( ) Old Jail Museum ( ) Joseph Research Library ( )
Contact me on ways I can volunteer (___)
Are you willing to docent at the Old Jail Museum? Yes / No
Areas of Special Interest and/or Comments/Suggestions:

President’s Corner
Dear Members:
What a wonderful year your society is having already! I am concentrating this letter on our need for volunteers and docents for the jail.
We were able to stay open every Truckee Thursday and weekends this past season because of the dedication of our docent group. Because of that we were able to bring in an increase of $750 dollars over the past year.
As you know, we are an all-volunteer group and that tends to take its toll by the end of the season. With our addition of more special events we are thinning out our pool of helpers constantly.
If you have even an hour to spare, these are the events we need help at:
May 16 - Schaffer Cemetery Cleanup Day. We need manual labor to help reset the posts and chains around the Cemetery and to clean weeds. 10:00 a.m. at the Cemetery, Ponderosa Townhouses.
May 25 - Memorial Day – Meet and Greet at Vet’s Hall, Noon to 2 p.m. and the Dog Tag Boogie, 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. We need people to help set up and clean up, and to socialize with the folks coming to these events.
June 7 - Work Day at the Old Jail Museum; Revamping the garden walls to prevent erosion and general clean up. 8 a.m.
July 11 - Truckee Air Show Set up starts at 8:00 a.m. http://truckeeaerioahow.com/. We will be hosting a second booth with the Friends of the Vet’s Hall and the Veterans for this special event. Need people to help man both booths.

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Echoes From the Past

May 2015 Issue 2

Calendar of Events
May 16 - Schaffer Cemetery Cleanup 10 a.m.
May 25 - Annual Memorial Day Ceremony Sierra Mountain Cemetery, 10 a.m.
May 25 - after the Memorial Day Ceremony, Special Old Jail Museum Opening
May 25 - Meet and Greet Picnic noon - 2 p.m. Veteran’s Hall
Dog Tag Boogie 7 - 10 p.m., Veteran’s Hall
June 7 - Work Day at the Old Jail Museum
June 11 - Old Jail Museum Official Opening Day for Summer 2015 5 p.m.
June 12 TOAST (Truckee Open Artists Studio Tour) Click Off reception
More information TBA
July 11 - Truckee Air Show, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
July 16 - Truckee Thursday Volunteer Booth Night
July 18 - Old Timers’ Picnic and Truckee History Day at the Truckee River Regional Park, 10 a.m. — 4 p.m. Historical Art Show Veteran’s Hall 6 p.m.
(More event info on page 7)

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