



TRUCKEE DONNER  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Board Meetings 6:00 p.m.  
4th Tuesday of the Month

Executive Board

~ President ~

Judy Dunlap

~ Vice President ~

Gordon Richards

~ Recording Secretary ~

Chelsea Walterscheid

~ Treasurer ~

Bob Bell

~ Corresponding Secretary ~

Billie Cornell

Directors

Don Colclough

~ Henry Murray ~

Committee Chairs

~ Editor/Publications ~

Judy Williams

~ Membership/Co-Editor ~

Billie Cornell

~ Museum Curator ~

Chelsea Walterscheid

~ Photograph Co-Chairs ~

Gordon Richards

Judy Dunlap

~ Memorial Garden ~

Henry Murray

~ Research Historian ~

Gordon Richards

~ Old Timer's Picnic ~

Heidi Euer-Martin

~ Election Committee/

Special Group Tours ~

Don Colclough

~ Archaeologist ~

Carrie Smith

# Echoes From the Past

VOLUME XXVI, ISSUE 1

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Spring 2007



## PRESIDENTS CORNER

~ Judy Dunlap President & Panoramic Photo Chair ~

Although the winter months are not as active for the Truckee Donner Historical Society, we, your Board of Directors, have been busy throughout this mild winter season. Gordon Richards, Vice President and Research Historian has been very busy scanning new photos into our collection. Our vintage photo catalog continues to expand as a result of the many hours of time Gordon spends on this project. Thank you Gordon. Your commitment of time and personal knowledge is so valuable to the Truckee Donner Historical Society.

Don Colclough has taken on the initial fact-finding phase of our Old Jail Museum roof repairs. He has been working with C.A.T.T. and the Town of Truckee to determine the scope of this project, materials needed and preparing an estimate of money needed to complete the project.

Billie Cornell spent many hours throughout the winter months working with our webmaster, Marilou Ficklin, to upgrade our website so that we no longer have to deal with those "pop-up" ads. We have also enrolled in Constant Contact, which will enable us to build an email mailing list so that we can keep our members up to date on upcoming events.

Chelsea Walterscheid is busy planning for the season opening of the Old Jail Museum and along with Heidi Martin, planning the Old Timer's and Truckee Reunion event in July.

And last but not least, Bob Bell, our Treasurer has the never-ending job of taking care of the banking and bookkeeping for the Society, and Judy Williams makes certain that all of the book stores in town are well stocked with our local history publications, as well as preparing our newsletter.

Henry Murray, Community Memorial Garden Chair, has taken a break this winter, (the Garden goes to sleep), to tend to his personal health, and we look forward to seeing his always cheerful self very soon!

We will be cleaning the Old Jail Museum on April 21, anyone interested in helping, please contact Chelsea. The Museum opens on June 8.

If you have not purchased a 2007 Truckee Donner Historical Society calendar, we still have many available to sell. Original price was \$16.95; they are currently selling for \$13.56. Please contact us via email if you are interested.



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

~ Billie Cornell, Membership Chair ~

### I'D LIKE TO WELCOME OUR NEWEST SOCIETY MEMBERS

Since November 2006

Jane Lufkin (Family)

Marilyn Crang (Individual)

Carolyn O'Neill (Individual)

Dan & Pam Dickerman (Family)

Eileen Burbank (Individual)

Sherwin-Williams Truckee (In-Kind)

Carmel Studios (Business)

Merrill & Joan Mensor (Family)

Rotary Club of Truckee (In-Kind)

Tahoe Forest Hospital (Contributing)

**DUES CURRENT?** It is easy to tell... just look at the mailing label on your newsletter. It shows the month and year of your renewal.

**DID YOU KNOW?** *TDHS IS SELF SUPPORTING.* The Society relies solely on membership dues, grants, and private donations to enable us to pursue our Mission:

*To Preserve and Educate the Public about Truckee's Local History*

Disclosure of personal information from our membership records are kept confidential and are never shared or sold to outside sources. Only current board members and committee chairs in the process of conducting Historical Society business have access to the Society's membership list.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A MEMBER

And please if you can, help US recruit new members



## OLD JAIL MUSEUM

~Chelsea Walterscheid, Museum Curator ~

Old Jail Museum Docent Training

Are you interested in local history? Would you like work down at the Old Jail Museum? We are looking for enthusiastic people to join our staff. Shifts are short, but rewards are great as you give visitors and locals a tour through Truckee's history at the Old Jail Museum on Jibboom Street. Join us at the Museum on Saturday, May 19th at 10:30 pm for a training course on displays and shift routines. Please bring along friends who might be interested as well. By giving a few extra hours during our open season, you can help us keep the doors open for everyone to enjoy!

Any questions can be directed to Chelsea at 530-305-4231

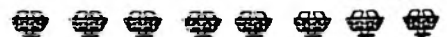
Did you know the Jail can be opened for group tours with advanced notice? Groups such as Elder Hostels and Schools have been touring the building for years. Do you have a group who may be interested in visiting the Museum?

For arrangements call Don Colclough at 530-587-1343

Spring Cleaning of the Old Jail Museum is scheduled for Saturday, April 21st at 10:00. Anyone interested can just show up (working gloves and a bandanna are a good idea).



### OLD TIMERS PICNIC



Save this date Sat. July 21st 10:am to 2:30 p.m......The Old timers Picnic and Truckee Reunion held at the Truckee Regional Park.



Author Jean Pfaelzer, Professor of English, East Asian Studies and Women's Studies at the University of Delaware will be presenting her book, "Driven Out: The Forgotten War Against Chinese Americans" on June 12, 2007. Although most of her book is set in the Pacific Northwest, a small portion covers the history of Chinese Americans in the Sierra Nevada, Northern California and Truckee. Ms. Pfaelzer will be conducting a presentation, with slide show. The location will be announced.

## WEB PAGE NEWS

~Billie Cornell~

If you have visited our web page <http://truckeehistory.tripod.com> recently you may have noticed we have completed some of the proposals written about in the Fall/Winter 2006 newsletter.

✓ **DONE** We heard you ... You will no longer be hounded by those annoying pop-up advertisements;

✓ **DONE and ON-GOING**, Have added *PHOTOS FROM CHRISTMAS AT THE CABIN*. We have been updating our Events Page, added additional event photographs including a picture of our newly restored Research Cabin;

✓ **DONE** We have updated our Publications Page to include a complete list of the books we sell including pricing and an order sheet. It is easy to order with our new order sheet that will calculate your costs including tax and shipping costs; print the order page, write a check and mail it. You could even email your order [tdhs@inreach.com](mailto:tdhs@inreach.com) in to let us know that your check will be coming and once your money is received your order will be promptly shipped out.

✓ **STILL RESEARCHING TO OBTAIN** To help expedite buying our books, photographs, and possibly your annual membership dues, we are investigating into ways to allow your use of credit cards to make on-line purchases;

✓ **DONE** We have a Link on the Home Page so you can subscribe to receive informational emails from the Society, so you will not miss out on any of our special events, sales, and more; *READ BELOW for more information*;

✓ **STILL IN THE WORKING STAGES** In the near future you may even be able to access this quarterly newsletter, *Echoes from the Past*, on-line. This would be obtained through our email subscription service described below;

✓ **DONE and ON-GOING...THREE AVIATION ARTICLES ADDED.** We have recently added more of Gordon Richards' very popular historical articles that are published in the local Truckee newspaper *The Sierra Sun*.

In our quest to keep you better and more quickly informed about what is happening with TDHS we have added a link on our Home Page. You will find the "Join Our Mailing List" box near the bottom of the Home Page.

By completing this box the reader will be selecting to receive periodic informational emails from the Society. You will have 6 topics of interest that you can sign up for:

- 1) General Interest, 2) Member Events &
- 2) Board meetings, 3) Old Jail Museum & Memorial Garden News, 4) Historic

Articles, 5) Publications, and 6) Historic Photographs. If you have provided your email address with you membership dues I will be adding you to the General Interest mailing list. If you do receive an email from us and prefer not to be included please feel free to unsubscribe or opt-out. You do not need to be a TDHS member to be able to receive our email notices so please encourage your friends, family and co-workers to sign up.

Any information provided with this link

will not be used by any other source than TDHS in our pursuit to provide updates and information about the Society.

Hope you enjoy the new changes, so please log-on to our web site to see our updates and increased services. If anyone has any ideas, suggestions, or comments please let us know by emailing me at [tdhs@inreach.com](mailto:tdhs@inreach.com).

## EDWARD W. McMILLS



Edward W. McMills passed away peacefully on January 3, 2007, from complications due to Parkinson's Disease at Marshall Hospital in Placerville, California. Ed was born May 17, 1930, in San Francisco, CA. He graduated from Balboa High School and San Francisco City College.

In 1953, Ed joined the San Francisco Police Department and, in 1965, he became a motorcycle officer, was privileged to escort many Presidents, international dignitaries and other people of importance. He worked the traffic detail for many movies, and even had a brief cameo in the movie "Killer Elite". During Ed's 28-year career as a police officer, he earned and received three Silver Medals of Valor and numerous Captain's Commendations.

Ed was first captivated by the Truckee-Donner area while skiing at Soda Springs in 1949. He bought his first property in Truckee in 1959, where he built his first Truckee home with the help of his close friends and police buddies. He retired there in 1981, until his dream home was built at Prosser Lakeview Estates. Ed enjoyed keeping busy by serving in numerous service and community organizations and became known as "ubiquitous"! He was everywhere -- the Follies, Destruction Derby, Special Olympics, Old-timer's picnics, Air Show, Post Office and can't forget the Coffee And...!

Since 1969, Ed was a charter member of the Truckee-Donner Historical Society. He worked on the organization of the walking tour of downtown Truckee, serving many hours as docent of the old Jail, researching, interviewing and documenting the Joerger family, and aiding in numerous other projects such as marking and preserving the Donner Party Trail.

From May 6, 1982, to January 12, 1995, Ed wrote 400 weekly columns for the Sierra Sun newspaper called the "Truckee Beat". The Nevada State Press Association, Inc. awarded him 2<sup>nd</sup> place in 1991, for the "Best Rural Freelance Correspondent" 3<sup>rd</sup> place in 1992 and then 1<sup>st</sup> place in 1995.

Ed joined the Lion's in 1981 and became the Sight Chairman. He was instrumental in obtaining the first national major sponsor, giving the Sled Dog Races, and Truckee, international press coverage. He was named Truckee Lion of the Year 1984, as well as Truckee Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year 1988. In addition to these many other pursuits, Ed was a 50 year Mason, 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree Mason, Master of the Truckee Masonic Lodge, Shriner and member of the Scottish Rite. When Ed moved to Cameron Park, in 1995, the Town of Truckee presented him with a Certificate of Commendation for "the dedication and accomplishments of the many thousands of hours of loyal community service". He and his wife, Joann, were invited back to Truckee in 1996 to be the Grand Marshals for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. At Donner Lake, he loved to sail, fish and horseback ride, as well as ski at all of the resorts with his family.

Ed is survived by his loving family: wife, Joann; daughters Lori Johnson (Kurt) and Lynn Fitzpatrick (Brian) and their daughters Anna and Colleen Fitzpatrick; Niece, Darleen Hartley (John Oram); and Nephew, Andrew McMills.

Donations may be made to the non-profit, Michael J. Fox Foundation

[www.michaelifox.org](http://www.michaelifox.org), 800 708-7644

written by Joann McMills and Lynn Fitzpatrick  
(edited by Lori Johnson and Anna Fitzpatrick)



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OLD JAIL MUSEUM  
JIBBOOM STREET  
DOWNTOWN TRUCKEE



April 24 Board Meeting  
May 19 Docent Training  
June 12 Book Presentation  
July 21 Old Timers Picnic



TRUCKEE DONNER  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Founded July 24, 1968

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TDHS MEMBER  
APPLICATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

---MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES---

INDIVIDUAL \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_ JUNIOR (18 YEARS & UNDER) \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
SUSTAINING \$75.00 \_\_\_\_\_ NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ CONTRIBUTING \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
MEMORIAL OR MEMORIAL GARDEN (CIRCLE ONE) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_  
GIFT MEMBERSHIP FOR: \_\_\_\_\_  
AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST AND/OR COMMENTS: