



# Echoes From the Past

VOLUME XXI, ISSUE 2

Published Quarterly

Spring 2002

ECHOES FROM  
THE PAST

Truckee-Donner Historical  
Society  
P.O. Box 893  
Truckee, CA 96160

## AT MY OWN PACE

Sharon Pace Arnold, President

Board Meetings 6:00 p.m.  
4th Tuesday of the Month  
Quarterly General Meetings  
March \*, June,  
August, October  
2nd Tuesday of the Month at  
7:00 p.m.

### Executive Board

- ~ President ~  
Sharon Pace Arnold
- ~ Vice President/Historian ~  
Guy Coates
- ~ Executive Secretary ~  
Chelsea Walterscheid
- ~ Treasurer ~  
Judy Dunlap

### Board Directors

- ~ Beverly Cook ~
- ~ Vice Deveney ~

### Chair Directors

- ~ Editor/Publications ~  
Judy Williams
- ~ Assistant Editor ~  
Chelsea Walterscheid
- ~ Membership ~  
Billie Cornell
- ~ Museum Coordinator ~  
Don Colclough
- ~ Photograph Chair ~  
Leanne Atwater

It feels like Spring; It smells like Spring; and it looks like Spring. The daffodils, and tulips and lilacs are budding. But it's not time to put the snow shovel away, just yet.

We are planning some very exciting happenings to take place in the very near future. One will be our very own web site. Maybe by the time you read this newsletter, it will be up and running. I am told our web site is: <http://truckeehistory.tripod.com>. I think you will be very impressed. Mr. Dale Dilts has donated his time to designing and putting this site together. We at TDHS owe him a big debt of gratitude. Another web site you might want to check out is: <http://regulators601.tripod.com>. Mr. Dilts also designed this web site.

Did you know that April 21-27 is National Volunteer Week. Don Colclough told me he is desperate for docents for our Old Jail Museum. Please call him at; 530-587-1343. Jim Smith will be looking for volunteers for our Memorial Garden landscaping clean up.

After many years of hard work it looks like Historic Downtown Truckee will apply to be on the National Historic Register this summer. Unfortunately the people who could have helped shed light on many of our old buildings are no longer with us.

I am sure that most of you saw on television the terrible fire in a block of historic Nevada City. We at TDHS feel their loss. If we lost a quarter block of Downtown Truckee it would be devastating. We extend our sympathy to the business owners.

Speaking of old buildings, how many of you remember the mural on the back wall in the lobby of the old Riverside Blume Hotel ? Today known as the Truckee Hotel. That portion of the hotel is being remodeled and the mural has been uncovered. The tenants hope to be able to restore it and save the painting. Does anyone know who painted it or when ?

Vince Deveney and his daughter Rebecca, are putting together a video about our old Jail Museum. They plan to start filming in May, and should be finished sometime this Summer. This is being done in conjunction with our local high school students, and our local channel 6.

A major project that we hope to start this summer is cataloging and scanning all our old photos. This is a project that may take years. There is prospects of grant money available.

For those of you who plan to be here for Memorial Day, don't be surprised to see some trees removed from the south side of the Cemetery . They are expanding, as they have run out of space.

See you July 20th at the Old Timers Picnic

Sharon Pace Arnold, President

# Meet Your Board

## ~ Guy Coates ~



Guy was born in Los Angeles, California in 1943, where he attended various parochial schools including Saint Catherine's Military School and graduated from George Washington High School in 1960.

He served in the U.S. Navy's Pacific Submarine Fleet from 1960 to 1964, then attended El Camino College and California State University, Dominguez Hills, graduating the a bachelor's degree in American Studies in 1981.

Following college, Guy worked in the Title Insurance business, then worked as a property and casualty insurance industry as an adjuster, supervisor and claims manager.

He first came to Truckee during a skiing trip in 1978, and like many others, he fell madly in love with the town. In 1983, He relocated his family to this area from Orange County and has never regretted it. He currently lives in Prosser Lakeview Estates with his wife, Carol and son, Michael and works as a legal investigator for an insurance defense law firm in Reno, Nevada.

Catch Guy Coates is a local Historian  
Read his column in the Sierra Sun or  
online at [www.sierrasun.com](http://www.sierrasun.com)

Since arriving in Truckee, Guy has been active in the community, serving for two years as treasurer of the Truckee Lion's Club and as Research Historian and Vice President of the Truckee-Donner Historical Society and a current member of the Railroad Regulators old west reenactment group. His wife, Carol is past president of the Truckee Soroptomist Club.

Guy and Carol enjoy skiing, hiking, fine food and wine and enjoy all aspects of Truckee's local history.



## OLD JAIL MUSEUM




It's Spring (today anyway), and it's time to start thinking about the seasonal re-opening of the Old Jail Museum.

Jail clean up will be at 10:00 AM on Saturday May 4th & 11th. The season will open on Saturday May 18th. The Museum is open from 11:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM every Saturday & Sunday until the season close, Sunday September 15th.

This year we are planning to have speakers outside playing "Olde Tyme" music when the Museum is open which should help draw more visitors.

April 21-27 is National Volunteer Week and for those who think they just don't have the time to volunteer, here is the perfect opportunity to give back to the community at very little time expense to you. For as little as 2 1/2 hours a month you can do your part.

Don Colclough will be happy to send you a package explaining the exhibits and is available by phone for any questions or more information. Call him at 587-1343. We really need help as we are down to 18 docents which will put a strain on everyone's time.

**COME AND DO YOUR PART! IT'S EASY AND FUN!!**

## Nuggets from the Past By Norman McLeod Old Joe



## SPRING/SUMMER OUTINGS



The horse's name was Old Joe and in this tale it shares the spotlight with its best friend, Wing, a Chinese Cook in Foresthill who worked a short distance from Old Joe's stable. Every two days Joe's harness was slipped off him, when with a sigh of relief he would trot off to his 24 hour rest and Wing.

Wing always on the alert for his friend's appearance, would greet Joe with a varied delicacy to whet the horse's appetite. "Hola mah." Wing would welcome him, stirring something in a bucket. "Hola mah—you likee?"

Then the old horse would nicker with delight and thrust his muzzle deep into the bucket to crunch its contents gleefully. It was a great friendship to witness, a ritual that in Foresthill through the years became legend.

One day the stage did not arrive in Foresthill on schedule. Instead there was a fevered commotion as citizens leaped on their mounts and galloped out of town, one of them leading an extra horse. Upon their return at sundown with the stage it was observed that Old Joe had been replaced by the extra horse.

Wing began asking questions in his broken English. He was plainly concerned. He was told the Foresthill stage had been held up and in the ensuing gunfire Old Joe had been shot and killed. Wing recoiled in sudden grief. He walked away, his lips moving silently. His best friend was dead, shot like a common varmint. His pal—who ran toward him every other night excitedly with quivering muzzle. Even now he lied alone beside the road, unburied, unmourned.

Sometime during the night Wing discovered his late friend lying beside the road, its bloody head shattered by a shotgun blast. It is said that Wing picked up that defaced head and sat with it in his lap for several long minutes. It is known that on the morrow there was a new grave alongside the highway, the grave of a horse. Beside it was a skewer of Chinese cakes, a bunch of slowly burning punks and a handful of red paper tickets with holes in them through which the devil had to pass in his hunt for the departed's soul.

The morning sun shone brightly on the new grave and on its maker Wing, who had paid final honors to a best friend.

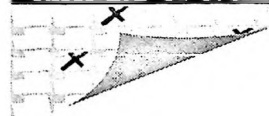
Now Foresthill and Placer county had a new legend to memorialize. A concrete marker was later installed over the grave that still can be seen by passing motorists. And in 2001 the Native Sons of the Golden West in Auburn installed a second concrete marker alongside the first, all in tribute to a faithful horse that was loved.

Some people believe that animals have souls and that when they die their souls ascend to heaven. If that be true we can assume Wing and Old Joe are together again.

(Reprinted by permission of Foresthill Divide Historical Society)

- May 25th-26th  
Truckee Home & Building Show Truckee High School
- June 2nd  
Soroptimist Wine Tasting at Northstar
- June 29th  
Air Force Band of the Golden West at Truckee Regional Park Amphitheater
- June 30th  
Best of Tahoe Chefs Dinner at Mt. Judah Lodge, Sugarbowl
- July 4th  
Community Parade & 1 Mile Run Westgate to Downtown Truckee
- July 12th-14th  
Optimist Cannibal Cruise Car Show Regional Park & California Trail Days Donner Memorial State Park.
- July 21st  
Donner Lake Triathlon West End Beach, Donner Lake.

### Calendar of events



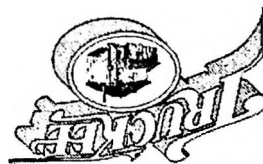
- \* May ??— Geneoa/Carson City/Bowers Mansion Bus Trip. Bring a picnic lunch-Dinner in Carson City  
Flyers will be mailed with exact date and further details.
- \* May 4th & 11th-Old Jail Museum Clean-up 10:00
- \* May 18th-19th-Windows on History & Official Seasonal Museum Opening 11 am ~ 4 pm (open weekends until Sept. 15th.
- \* June 25th— Lincoln Highway-an interesting program on the history of the Lincoln Highway presented by Lee Schegg at the Donner State Park.
- \* July 20th-Annual Old Timers Picnic at Truckee Regional Park 10 am ~ 4 pm.
- \* August 3rd— Garden Party at TDHS Memorial Garden (located at the Old Jail Museum).
- \* September 15th— Truckee Walking Tour hosted by TDHS Board Members.
- \* September 24th— Truckee Donner Historical Society Annual Meeting, Elections & Dinner
- \* October 8th— Living History Program
- \* November 12th— General Sutter Movie-Docudrama on the history and life of Capt. John A. Sutter—At TDHS Cabin.
- \* November 30th-December 1st— Tiny Tim Christmas.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Website Coming Soon!  
<http://truckeehistory.tripod.com>



APRIL IS NATIONAL HUMOR MONTH



Cornell, Bruce & Billie  
PO Box 10828  
Truckee CA 96162-0828  
07-02

Phone: (530) 582-0893  
Email: [tdhs@inreach.com](mailto:tdhs@inreach.com)  
[Http://truckeehistory.tripod.com](http://truckeehistory.tripod.com)

TRUCKEE-DONNER HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 893  
TRUCKEE, CA 96160

ECHOES FROM  
THE PAST

NON PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Truckee, CA  
Permit No. 11



TRUCKEE-DONNER  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Founded July 25, 1968

P.O. Box 893, Truckee, CA 96160  
Phone (530) 582-0893  
E-mail: [tdhs@inreach.com](mailto:tdhs@inreach.com)  
Website: <http://truckeehistory.tripod.com>

### TDHS MEMBER APPLICATION

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

#### MEMBERSHIP CATAGORIES

INDIVIDUAL \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_ JUNIOR (18 YEARS & UNDER, NOT IN A FAMILY) \$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: