



# The Saddlebag

Volume 30 #6 June 2008

The Kern River Valley Historical Society

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## Calendar of Events

**June 12<sup>th</sup> 8pm (Thurs)**.....*Movies Under The Stars in Museum back yard*

**June 17<sup>th</sup> 8am (Tues)**.....*Lone Pine/Alabama Hills Movie field trip (Leave Senior Center 8am)*

**June 24<sup>th</sup> 9am (Tues)**.....*Board Meeting at St Peters Church in Kernville*

**June 24<sup>th</sup> 7pm (Tues)**.....*General Meeting at Senior Center..Battle of the Has Beens under the guidance of Gene Verbeet*

**June 26<sup>th</sup> 8pm(Thurs)**.....*Movies Under the Stars in Museum backyard*

**July 1<sup>st</sup> 9am (Tues)**.....*Basque Restaurant 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Luncheon*

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### June 17<sup>th</sup> Lone Pine/Alabama Hills Movie Tour hosted by Liz Bardos

Our trip on this date will be to the town of Lone Pine, named after the single pine tree found at the mouth of Lone Pine Canyon. The town was founded in the 1860's as a supplier of gold and silver mining tools, food and general needs. In later years it became and still is famous as the location of literally hundreds of movies. We will begin our guided tour by visiting the Lone Pine Movie Museum. The museum was completed in October of 2006 and was designed after a famous western theater in Montana. Filled with movie memorabilia, there is also a 15 minute movie which touches on movie-making in the area. From the Museum we will caravan to the Alabama Hills where we will be given a 2 hour guided tour of this famous site where hundreds of movies were and are still being made. You will see the sites of many, many great Hollywood movies made by stars such as Gene Autry, Roy Rogers, Hopalong Cassidy and scores of others. The Alabama Hills as toured will remind you of India's Kyber Pass, or Texas, Arizona, Utah and Nevada and rightly so, because the Alabama hills portrayed those locations in many films. Our tour ends here and we will meet at the Mt Whitney Restaurant, touted to have the finest hamburgers in town. Or if you wish you can visit any of a number of eateries here. Places like The Totem Café, The High Sierra Café, The Pizza Factory and others or you can bring your own lunch and weather permitting visit the Whitney Portal where you will find picnic tables, and a pond for fishing, even a small snack bar. Bring layered clothes for warm or cold, comfortable shoes, chairs and your camera. There is lots to see. Now for some needed information. ***We will leave Paul's Place at 8am sharp arriving at the Movie Museum close to 10am. Our tour begins there. The cost for the museum and guided tour to the Alabama Hills has been given to us for the special price of \$8.00 ( a savings of \$12.00 if done individually.) Tour money will be collected at Paul's Place, so be there by 7:40am. If you are going, call Liz Bardos at 376-3844. Questions can be answered at that time. After you read this, call Liz now!!!...***

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**June 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> we will again have "Movies Under the Stars."** There will be a mix of old

(Cont) and a nickel for popcorn and 50 cents for cold drinks. Dress for the weather. If you're new the movies are shown in the Museums backyard in the Pack Station. We have ordered some special movies that you will like. All movies are reviewed for content and can be viewed by the whole family .So **on the 12<sup>th</sup> or the 26<sup>th</sup> (or both)** plan on watching **"Movies Under the Stars."**  
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**June General Meeting 7pm Tuesday June 24<sup>th</sup>. Coordinator Vicki Middleworth**

This meeting should be on your "Don't Miss this Program" Calendar. The event will be hosted by famous Gene Verbeet who has entertained us in the past with his portrayal of historic figures. Always a treat, this program will be handled by Gene as he brings us 'The Battle of the Has Beens'. It will involve several of the past presidents who will be brought into Genes' sketch. As a past president your editor is very apprehensive about his part in this program. In fact all of the past presidents have serious doubts about what Gene has in store. Plan on being entertained as Gene Verbeet puts on his show and watch the past presidents in action. Mark your calendar!!  
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**THE MAY FIELD TRIP, A HIT BEFORE IT HAPPENED** by Jacqueline Morgan

KRVHS members showed their interest in four star Basque cuisine and in the Basque history of Kern County by enthusiastic support of the May 20 field trip to Sandrini's Restaurant in Bakersfield. What a surprise to Don Morrison and Jacqueline Morgan, the field trip coordinators, when by the time the May Saddlebag went out, 35 members (the trip limit) had signed up and 20 found themselves on a waiting list!

The food and program more than satisfied the field trippers. Mr. Sandrini's led-off with a talk on Basque traditional foods and a description of the special ethnic menu for lunch--rosemary bread fresh from the oven, marinated tomato salad, served with pinto beans and lamb stew followed by garlic potatoes and a half chicken topped with Lrouleguy sauce. The chicken dish, which takes two or more hours to prepare, does not appear on the regular menu of the restaurant.

The eager, hungry members had to wait for their lunch, but staved off hunger with the rosemary bread while a member of the Basque Club of Bakersfield enlightened them on the contributions to our county, the traditions and the customs of the Basque.

The lunch more than lived up to the high expectations raised by Mr. Sandrini's description. Good news! Those who missed the May field trip have another chance on Tuesday, July 1, 2008 when the event repeats.  
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**SECOND CHANCE TO LEARN ABOUT THE BASQUE AND EAT BASQUE FOOD July 1<sup>st</sup> 2008**

With slight modifications, the successful May 20 field trip to the award winning Sandrini's Restaurant for Basque cuisine, repeats on **Tuesday, July 1, 2008.**

The **program starts at 10:00 AM** with a presentation on Basque food and cooking styles by Mr. Sandrini. A talk on the traditions and history of the Kern County Basque follows, given by a member of the Kern County Basque Club.

**At 11:15 AM, lunch starts.** Expect a great treat. The same menu that delighted the members on May 20, starts with Sandrini's own rosemary bread, marinated tomatoes, pinto beans, and salsa, succeeded by lamb stew, then a half chicken in Basque sauce and garlic potatoes to top off the meal. **Call Liz Bardos before June 25<sup>th</sup> to reserve one of the 30 spots and send your check for \$15, gratuity included, to her as she instructs you to do.** If you want to go with a group, meet the trip leader in back of the Senior Center at 8:45 AM, (cont)

(cont) departure at 9:00 AM. Otherwise go to Sandrini's on your own at 1918 Eye Street, Bakersfield, telephone (661) 322-8900. Travel 178 to Bakersfield, turn left on Eye Street, go 3 or 4 blocks. Find the restaurant downstairs on the left. Expect some street construction at the intersection just beyond the restaurant.

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**Artist of the Month...Martin Sass....Woodworker...** Martin has been retired for 15 years. He decided to take up woodworking as a hobby and tried his hand at it about a year before retiring. He loves creating things and teaching; so he is passing his talents along to a teenager and two adults at this time. He has given demonstrations to a class of boys at South Fork Middle School and the boys have been to his shop where they each had an opportunity to try their hand at woodworking. He has been featured in "Creative Woodworks" and Scroll Saw" magazines. He has lived in the Kern River Valley for 12 years. Come to the museum to see some of his intricate and beautiful work...(The Museum is open Thursday through Sunday from 10am to 4 pm)

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**Highlight of The Month...**Is the businesses that are members and who support our Museum. We would recommend, that you take a careful look at the list of business members that are listed in our Saddlebag. If you can, give them your business and let them know you saw their name in our publication and appreciate their support.

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**Says Peg Greenberg: Wow! Another great History Days!** From Last year we estimated a little over 800 visitors and because of the heat and the price of gas, we considered that it may be substantially less this year BUT we had 755 visitors over the three days AND an incredible community turnout. Many, many thanks to my committee who worked so hard to make this the best History Days ever and to every docent, baker, demonstrator and entertainer we had, you all did such a fantastic job. Thanks also goes out to all of the following merchants for their generous donations of Door Prizes; Kern Valley Golf Course, Cheyenne's, TrueValue, Golden State Surplus, Napa Auto Parts, El Portal Mexican Restaurant, B&D Tires, Dave & Son Automotive, Cheryl's Diner, Kern River Brewery, L&M Lumber, Lah-De-Dah, Archie's Hardware, Sierra South, Petal Pushers and Video Palace. Congratulations to Linda Diaz who took 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Costume Contest and Neal Russell who took 2<sup>nd</sup>. And as for our pie bakers, Don Morrison and Jacqueline Morgan won 1<sup>st</sup> place for their Mince Pie, Kathleen Gulnac was a close 2<sup>nd</sup> with her Strawberry Dream Pie and on her tail was Liz Bardos for her 3<sup>rd</sup> place entry of French Apple. Congratulations to you all and to all other participants, thanks for your entries; it was a tough decision. The winner of the Doc Holliday print is Jackie Ellis from Westminster. Jackie was elated when I gave her the news and said that they have a vacation home here in the Valley and love the museum. That's it for this year! Thanks for allowing me to coordinate this event and I hope to see you all for our 13<sup>th</sup> Annual History Days in 2009. **Peg** (Editors note, this was a great event with lots of participation and our special thanks go to Peg for her hard and successful work)

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**Local Schools tour the Museum...**Well over 100 school children from Woodrow Wallace, and South Fork schools toured our museum in May. Many were in costume and all seemed to enjoy the outing and opportunity to see some of our history. Our thanks to docents Dick Snyder Jim Richards, Dean Ott, Charles Topping, Bob Fisher, and Rod Middleworth, for their help..

**Tidbits from the May 27<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.....**Plans and costs are being finalized for a permanent shade cover for the seating of our Outdoor Theater. Protection and cooling relief makes this a priority item for continued use of the facility...Insurance coverage was reviewed by our agent Judy Dempsy...Chuck Barbee and Glenda Rankin made a presentation regarding the historic Lopez, Hill House and a chance for our part of Kern County to be recognized. Report from Mike Ludiker on our website a/o May 27<sup>th</sup>. We had 325 Unique Visitors, 1387 accesses to our site. And 545 separate visits to our Museum site. Each month it continues to grow.

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**Membership Update as compiled by Membership Chairperson Shirley Fisher...** We gained *11 new members* over the month Making a total of *505 memberships* which equates out to over a thousand folks in our organization. New members are: Bob and Holly Gross of Kernville, Dale Payne of Bakersfield, Susan and George Danielson of Riverside, Lesley and Jim Cline of Kernville, Sandy Orrell of Wofford Hts, Robert Reed of Lake Isabella, Adele and Jack Sparks of Wofford Hts, Everett Babbe of Kernville, Alan and Elizabeth Teafatiller of Wofford Hts. and two businesses: Animal House Pet Grooming of Wofford Hts, and Jim Jones Construction Co. of Wofford Hts. In addition to renewal of their annual dues, the following gave additional donations to the our Historical Society: Elizabeth Babcock, Cheryl Haigwood, Clyde Barbeau, Golden State Surplus, Phyllis Secord, Gilbert Siegel, Richard and Diane Jones and Click Realty. A hearty handshake to you all, thanks for the donations and to the new members, welcome to one of the best Historical Societies you could be a part of. Be sure to check this publication to see what is happening. Come to our General meeting, go with us on our field trips. This is all for you. Let us meet you and personally welcome you to History as it was and fun times ahead...

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**Sunshine Report from Juanita Kitchell....** Get Well Cards were sent to Sue Stevenson and to Gail Milburn. Cards of Sympathy were sent to Mel Miller for the loss of Hazel and to Pat Ulrich for the loss of Richard Our hearts and prayers go to all of them

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**May General Meeting and Scholarship Award Program chaired by Bob Dreiling.** It was a packed house with over 130 children, parents, grandparents, teachers and members. A great meeting and one full of interest and a chance for us to see how smart and good our school children really are. If you missed this you missed a good one. Though packed to the rafters it was absolutely quiet as 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders received their cash awards, From the 15 first place finishers we heard presentations on their subjects and a chance to see the intricate and well done projects that so many of them brought. The caretaker of the Senior center was there and turned up the air conditioner so we would be comfortable with this large group. Some of the students gave power point computer screened pictures as part of their presentations. An excellent program and well run. According to Bob there was a total of Ten fourth grade award recipients from Kernville Elementary and a total of Twenty Two Fifth grade award recipients from Woodrow Wallace. Third place gave a 5 dollar award, Second Place gave a 10 dollar award and First Place gave a 20 dollar award. Judges for the competition were *Carol Ellis, Cassie Wingender, Jim Malouf, Bob Dreiling, Marlene and Chet Rock*, all who did an outstanding job. \$500 dollar Senior scholarships went to *Spring Villarial, Michael Roofener, Christine Ogas, Brittany Granados, and Nestor Alvarez*. All judged deserving and needful of these awards. Thanks for a great job Bob Dreiling and your group of hardworking judges!!!...

**The Sageland Gold Mining Town and its new Granite Plaque**

On May 3<sup>rd</sup> 15 Historical members met with over 50 Clampers from the Peter Lebeck Chapter 1805 of The E Clampus Vitus organization. Their purpose was to attend the unveiling of the granite monument at the site of the old town of Sageland. This monument was made possible through the joint efforts of the Clampers and the Kern River Valley Historical Society. Spearheaded by our past president Charles Topping the monument replaced a partially destroyed monument placed there in 1968. Wording on the granite face says: *Sageland...IN 1867 THIS SMALL COMMUNITY BECAME A SUPPLY CENTER FOR THE ST. JOHN, BURNING MOSCOW, AND OTHER MINES IN THE NEW EL DORADO DISTRICT. SEVERAL STORES, SALOONS, AND BOARDING HOUSES WERE ERECTED AND IT BECAME ONE OF THE LIVELIEST CAMPS IN KERN COUNTY. A STAGE LINE OPERATED BETWEEN HERE AND HAVILAH. THE MINES PLAYED OUT AND SAGELAND HAD BECOME A GHOST TOWN BY THE EARLY 1870'S. PLAQUE ERECTED ON MAY 3, 2008 BY THE KERN RIVER VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND E CLAMPUS VITUS (ECV) PETER LEBECK (PXL) #1866.* In addition to the ceremony a Clamper Booklet was given out which depicted the rise and fall of this historic town. Here are just a few excerpt from that publication. 'By 1868 the town consisted of several stores and dwellings. Houses were in the course of erection. Among new enterprises were two saloons, one with a store, and attached boarding house. There was another store operated by George Bodfish and a hotel and bar run by Henry Denker. Nearby a sawmill was erected to supply lumber for the fast growing town. There were the usual shootings and mine accidents, but the town found some culture when the Sageland Opera Troupe performed 3 well received comedies. In addition a town hall was built and magic shows and musicals were presented. The town had a post office and there was a stage line that traveled from Sageland to Havilah. The charge for its use was 6 Dollars from Havilah to Sageland and 5 dollars from Sageland to Havilah...If anyone is interested in this booklet and its contents, it is now a part of the Museum library. A special thanks to Charles Topping who has been instrumental in the placement of two important historic plaques in the Kern River Valley..Thanks Charles!!!

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