

# Summer 2016 Events Newsletter of the Museums & Historic Sites of Southern Yosemite

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www.southyosemitemuseums.org

## ARE YOU A TRAVELER?

**TWO** trips in 2017 are calling to you---  
**March in CUBA & October in ICELAND**

**IF** the opening of the “off limits” country with its *color, rhythms, history and welcoming people* interest you, a Vantage group tour (24 max) “**Across Cuba: From Santiago de Cuba to Havana-2017**” can be yours by calling Anne Flayer, **559-642-2207** / antianne@yahoo.com for information. Or, call Vantage for reservations at 1-800-322-6677: Group code G691-600. Trip dates: March 4 to 16, 2017.

**IF** *fascinating geology* excites you, the unusual country of **ICELAND** can be a destination in your future. “**Iceland: Fire, Sea & Ice**” is a Vantage group tour (24 max) that will cover this fascinating island. Call Jack at **559-642-4242** 4good@sti.net for information on a group trip (maximum of 24) that will leave on **September 17, 2017**. Or call Vantage at 1-800-322-6677: Group code G679-200. Because we are planning so far in advance, very special discounts will be offered to those who make the decision early. Trip dates: September 17 to 29, 2017.

## EVENTS COMING SOON

**THE GOLDEN CHAIN THEATER:** Again this year the new venues for our favorite local theater are outstanding. Several Broadway and local hits will delight everyone! Call 559-683-7112! Tu & Th 10-2 for reservations.

**August 12 to 28:** DEARLY DEPARTED “Drop ‘dead’ funny!”

**September 23 to October 9:** BLITHE SPIRIT “An absolutely charming haunt!”

**October 28 to November 20:** MUSIC MAN

“As American as apple pie—warm, wonderful and very worthwhile.”

**December 9 to 18:** BELIEVE IN CHRISTMAS “A GCT holiday musical variety show.” (This event is not included in Season Subscription.)

## THE FOSSIL DISCOVERY CENTER OF MADERA COUNTY

invites you to their

coming events:

**June 18:** Father’s Day Special: Free admission and gift for all Fathers

**July 16:** Family Picnic Day: Free hot dog, drink & chips with paid admission.

**August 20:** Historical Figure Day: Representative historical players will speak on their life’s work, featuring Mary Anning, first female paleontologist; John Muir of Yosemite fame; and special guest Mark Twain, American author.

**THE FOSSIL DISCOVERY CENTER** is located off Exit 164 on Hwy 99 just outside Chowchilla at 19450 Ave. 21½. The Discovery Center and dig site has the largest Pleistocene fossil bed in the western United States. This is truly a wonderful adventure for children and adults alike. You’ll be amazed at the “dig.”  
www.maderamammoths.org  
SJV Paleontology Foundation, PO Box 1020, Madera 93639 559-665-7107.

## CENTRAL SIERRA HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM:

42642 Tollhouse Road at Shaver Lake at the entrance to the Edison Campground. On-going lecture series called “Sierra Voices”: free talks held in the media room at the museum. Info: 559-841-4478.

THE SIERRA STEAMERS operate the fully functional Dolbeer Steam Donkey. It was used to move large trees from where they were felled in the forest to the mill. cshs@netptc.net  
The museum has an extensive calendar:

**June 18:** Hikes for History: History of “Chinaman Charlie”; Pine Logging Camp Open House

**June 24:** Friday in The Pines—Tipperary Stew

**June 25:** Annual Fundraising Dinner

**July 2:** Powerhouse Demonstration; Steam Donkey Engine Steam-Up

**July 3:** Pancake Breakfast; Osprey II Boat Tours; Shaver Lake Fireworks Show & Boat Parade

**July 9:** Sierra Voices: Ghost Towns of Fresno Co.; Speaker Historian J. Randall McFarland

**July 16:** Hikes for History

**July 17:** Osprey II Boat Tours; Steam Donkey Steam-Up; Powerhouse Demo; Ice cream social

**July 29:** Friday in Pines—The Grass Less Traveled.

**SIERRA MONO INDIAN MUSEUM** in North Fork: The museum houses an **impressive display** of traditional Indian arts and dioramas of North American animals. Enjoy exploring local native culture and history, a nature trail and an Indian Village. 33103 Road 228, North Fork. The museum is open from 10 to 3:30, Mon thru Fri. Information at 559-877-2115. [www.sierramonomuseum.org](http://www.sierramonomuseum.org) [monomuseum@gmail.com](mailto:monomuseum@gmail.com)

**POW-WOW...AUGUST 6 & 7 in North Fork:** Sierra Mono Museum Indian Fair Days & 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration. Dancing \* Food \* Crafts \* American Indian Veterans Assn. Color Guard. Northern Host Drum: Black Bear Crossing; Southern Host Drum: Red Buffalo (Gene Ray Ahboah). North Fork Recreation Center, 33507 Rd. 230. 559-877-2115.

**FRESNO FLATS HISTORIC PARK AND MUSEUM** *is open to welcome you to experience many sites from the past.* The museum is located on School Road (427) near Yosemite High School. 559-658-2019.

**The 20<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL HERITAGE DAYS AT FRESNO FLATS** will take place on **September 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**. The annual parade will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday and this year will end at the museum. Good food, crafts, music—all here for your enjoyment. Watch the *Sierra Star* for all the complete information.

## **OTHER MUSEUMS & HISTORIC SITES**

**AHWAHNEE HILLS REGIONAL PARK** is open and ready for you to hike, picnic and explore! Go to [www.ahwahneepark.org](http://www.ahwahneepark.org) to check out all this new GEM has to offer! You will be delighted that the “crew” who manage the park have spent so much time and effort to make this a major addition to our mountain area. (No bicycles allowed at this time, please.)

**THE CALIFORNIA STATE MINING & MINERAL MUSEUM** The State M&M Museum contains fantastic crystals, gold, gemstones and mineral specimens from California and around the world. The Museum houses the state’s official mineral collection and includes mining artifacts and an underground mine tunnel. Learn how large commercial mining

operations changed the face of California as the gold rush waned. See the famous Fricot Nugget, a rare 14 lb. crystalline gold specimen from 1865. There is a free junior ranger program for kids, and gold panning is offered on selected weekends. (Call for availability.) The Museum Shop has mineral samples, jewelry, gifts and books on geology, prospecting and California history.

The Museum is located at the Mariposa Fairgrounds, 2 miles south of the town of Mariposa on Hwy 49. Open hours are Thursday thru Sunday from 10 to 5. \$4 for adults; 12 and under free. (209) 742-7625. Email: [wwwCaMineralmuseum.com](http://wwwCaMineralmuseum.com). See us on Facebook. [Rockmuseum@sti.net](mailto:Rockmuseum@sti.net)

## **CHILDREN’S MUSEUM OF THE SIERRA**

The hands-on museum is open at 49269 Golden Oak Drive (Oakhurst) on **Tuesday thru Saturday from 10 to 5**. \$6 for those age 2 to 59; under 2—free! Annual memberships are available. **See the website for many, many events.** 559-658-5656  
[www.childrensmuseumofthesierra.org](http://www.childrensmuseumofthesierra.org)

**COARSEGOLD HISTORIC MUSEUM** offers an in-depth look at the local Indian tribes and the history of the Pioneers in this eastern Madera County mountain area. Hundreds of artifacts take you to the days of yesteryear. Four buildings include the main museum “barn,” the Picayune School (1913 to 1956), the “Old Adobe Freight Wagon Way Station” (built in the late 1800s), and now open: the “home end” of the building with displays from the Vintage Museum, et al., and the Blacksmith Shop—Free. Donations are always appreciated. **Open 10 to 2 Thursday thru Saturday, 12 to 4 Sunday, 9 to 11 Monday.**  
[www.coarsegoldhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.coarsegoldhistoricalsociety.com)

**LITTLE CHURCH ON THE HILL** The Little Church on the Hill in the Oakhurst Cemetery is a Historic Site. It dates to 1894 and has been fully restored. Visit Monday through Friday. The church is available for weddings (call Jackie Mallouf at 559-683-6832 or David Sebastian at 559-683-4673) and memorial services (see Robert in the cemetery office). The next formal service will be on Veterans’ Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>, at 11 a.m.

**NELDER GROVE:** 1,540 ACRES in the Sierra Nat'l Forest, with over 100 mature sequoias mixed in a forest of pine, fir and cedar. It can be found just off the Sierra Vista Scenic Byway, only about 10 miles north of Oakhurst. An area signage improvement project is planned for later this year. The PERFECT area for hiking and camping!

Brenda has just written a new book about Nelder Grove that will be available in July at the Coarsegold Historic Museum. [www.neldergrove.org](http://www.neldergrove.org) or call Brenda Negley at 559-760-9108.

**RAYMOND MUSEUM:** *The Charles Miller House features exhibits about the train coming to Raymond for 20 years and why "All roads led to Raymond!" Photos displayed tell the history of the area.* Raymond was the terminus for the railroad that carried passengers to Raymond from Berenda from 1886 to 1906. Passengers changed there to horse-drawn open stages to proceed to Yosemite over rough and narrow mountain roads. The museum was the home of the railroad station master. Information: call 559-689-1886. Free, donations appreciated. Roads 600 & 608. Open Sundays, 12 to 4.

**YOSEMITE MOUNTAIN SUGAR PINE RAILROAD** and **THORNBERRY HOUSE MUSEUM** offers an exciting four-mile railroad excursion near Yosemite Park's south gate (Fish Camp) on Hwy 41. Ride into turn-of-the-century history where powerful Shay Locomotives once hauled massive log trains through the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Go to the website and check out *The MOONLIGHT SPECIAL* and the *MELODRAMA EVENING*

Also visit the Thornberry Family Log Cabin, over 100 years old, where the actual tools used by lumberjacks are displayed. Have fun at the gold panning operation. Info at 559-683-7273, [www.ymspr.com](http://www.ymspr.com) 56001 Hwy 41, Fish Camp.

**THE MADERA ARTS COUNCIL** Go to [www.maderaarts.org/](http://www.maderaarts.org/) for updates on events. **TO RECEIVE** the Madera County Arts Council *Art News*, email [mcaacstaff@maderaarts.org](mailto:mcacstaff@maderaarts.org) or call 559-661-7005.

**SIERRA VISTA SCENIC BYWAY ASSN:** **Information:** Contact Doug Waltner at [dwaltner@netptc.net](mailto:dwaltner@netptc.net) or call 559-877-2860. [www.sierravistascenicbyway.org](http://www.sierravistascenicbyway.org)

**THE NORTH FORK HISTORY GROUP** has launched a series called HISTORY MYSTERY on [www.sierranewsonline.com/](http://www.sierranewsonline.com/) This will take you to the SNOL site; the history section can be reached from the home page under the tab LIVING. When you reach the History Mystery, you may have to click "read more" in order to see the entire article. There will be a scheduled "Mystery" each month. This may be especially interesting for you "old timers" in the area who may be able to identify the mystery picture!!!

**COARSEGOLD HISTORIC VILLAGE** lies within the heart of Coarsegold. In years gone by it was a popular stopping place with a lovely hotel, swimming pool and golf course. The history of the property would fill a book! Visit the many shops here and have a wonderful meal at the Miner's Inn. You can fill your prescriptions at the Coarsegold Pharmacy and pick up antiques at the south end of the site. Grab a cup of specialty coffee—enjoy!!!

\* \* \* \* \*

The following was sent to me as an email; this is unbelievable! The following is just one of 5 sections of the test that took 5 hours to complete:

- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Final Exam: Salina, KS – 1895**  
U.S. History:
1. Give the epochs into which U.S. history is divided.
  2. Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus.
  3. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.
  4. Show the territorial growth of the U. S.
  5. Tell what you can of the history of Kansas.
  6. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion.
  7. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn and Howe?
  8. Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865.

*Note: To be removed from this newsletter email [CHSCoarse@gmail.com](mailto:CHSCoarse@gmail.com) Your listing will be removed.*