

Message From the Board

Thanks to all who voted this year for our Board of Directors. The strength of your ongoing support is what keeps us moving forward each and every day. If you are interested in becoming more involved as a volunteer, there are many ways to do so. Become a Docent (shifts are 12-3 PM weekdays, weekend shifts are either 11-1:30 or 1:30-4:00 PM, your choice). We do not assign shifts, you simply sign-up for a shift that works best for you. You can also volunteer to assist with

Continued See MESSAGE pg 6 (last page)



They're Here!!!

Instant Wine Cellar Tickets

Drawings to be held Sat., Aug. 26

Tickets are now available for our 35th annual Instant Wine Cellar Raffle. The lucky grand prize winner will receive five cases of premium wines from Napa Valley Producers. Please see the flyer with the ticket order form on the reverse elsewhere in this newsletter. Tickets are also available at the Museum. The price remains the same at \$10 each or 5 for \$40. As always, Event Chair Pat Larsen can use your help soliciting donations of wine. Call her at 707-341-3313 or email dirofdev48@gmail.com if you would like to donate yourself or know a producer who is willing to donate two bottles.

A "Reason" to Celebrate at Canard Vineyard, May 19, 2023

A gorgeous spring day, a master garden in full flower, an historic vineyard boasting some of the oldest zinfandel vines in Napa Valley planted by Calistoga Pioneer Reason P. Tucker— and, among the lively, happy crowd tasting wine and strolling among the flower beds, a few descendants of the Tucker Family got acquainted and swapped stories. This supremely joyful day, made possible by the generosity of hosts Carolyn & Rich Czapleski, owners of Canard Vineyard, raised \$5,790 for the museum. It also served as a kickoff event for our next special exhibit highlighting the life and legacy of Tucker, perhaps best known as one of the rescuers of Donner Party survivors – a fascinating and noteworthy life, indeed.

There was a full-circle symmetry to the day. Tucker's great-great-granddaughter, Jean Sawday of St. Helena, was there with her husband Chuck, the realtor who sold Reason P. Tucker's Property - a dilapidated redwood house built in 1858,

Continued See REASON pg 2



Tucker descendants Ron Vanoncini, his father Charles, and Jean Sawday

REASON *continued from pg 1*

and 25 acres of heritage vineyards - to the newlywed Czapleskis forty years ago. A front-page Napa Register story on the Czapleskis' restoration of Tucker's former home and the wine they make from 130-year-old vines Tucker planted caught the attention of Charles & Rob Vanoncini of Napa. (Charles is Reason P. Tucker's great-great-great grandson, and son Rob is Tucker's great-great-great-great grandson). While cousins Sawday and the Vanoncinis hadn't met previously, they greeted each other warmly and shared memories of their intertwined family histories.

Later this month, the Sharpsteen will unveil a special exhibit on Tucker and his legacy. Tucker lived in Napa Valley for 24 years. In addition to planting vineyards, he built the Tucker School next door to his property on Dunaweal Lane. During his life, he and four wives had ten children, some of whom settled in Napa Valley. He lost his property in a lawsuit that wound up in the California Supreme Court in 1872, and moved to Goleta, near Santa Barbara, where he lived until his death in 1888 at the age of 82. Canard Vineyard owners Rich & Carolyn Czapleski named one of their wines *The Rescuer* in Tucker's honor. The Bordeaux blend is 90% Merlot, with 8% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Cabernet Franc.

The Reason P. Tucker Exhibit will feature personal artifacts including his rifle, copies of deeds to his homestead, the cast iron bell from the Tucker School lent by Linda Shaw, and a timeline of his life, as well as a collection of objects providing a sense of everyday life in the latter half of the 19th century. Stay tuned for more information on the opening date of this exhibit.

Our sincere thanks to Carolyn & Rich Czapleski for their extraordinary support of the museum. On top of this highly successful event, the proceeds from the sale of their two rosé wines will be split between the Sharpsteen and the Tucker Farm Center, which is raising funds for a new roof.

Pat Larsen, *Ways & Means Chair*
Eden Umble, *Media Chair*



Rich Czapleski, Canard Vineyard Owner and Winemaker



TOP: *The Czapleski's home*

MIDDLE: *Museum Board Member Pat Larsen and Canard Vineyard Owner Carolyn Czapleski*

BOTTOM: *Museum Board Members and Volunteers Jackie Lang and Marcia Ciarlo*



Docents: We Couldn't Have Done It Without You!!!

BEST OF THE BEST

Team Docent for March & April

Rose Beck	Lorne Glaim	Molly McGuire
Jane Bennett	Marilyn Glaim	Patricia Murphy
Lloyd Best	Sally Houk	Jo Ellen Noble
Sara Boggs	Cathy Keag	Lauren Thollander
Emily Bucchianeri	Pat Larsen	Doug Webb
Judith Cornils	David Lomax	Lamar Webb
Anika Fair	Michael Mannion	Jeannie Williams

Interested in becoming a docent? We are always looking for smiling faces to greet visitors. Please contact Jane at (757) 536-1146.

(Yes, area code is 757, not 707!)

Ask the Docent:

Q: What do you call this chair that faces both directions?

A: It is a *courting chair*, commonly found in the Victorian Era parlors, or other formal establishments. Also known as a "conversation chair", "tete-a-tete", "gossip chair", or a "chaperone chair", it was designed to allow the sitters to have a discreet conversation.



Docent Pat Larsen explains the courting chair to visitors.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

It's Renewal Time Again

Memberships for the 2023/2024 year are currently due, and we invite members to another year of support by renewing today. Your continued generosity helps to keep our doors open, our visitors informed about the history of Calistoga and the Upper Napa Valley and provides activities and outreach within our community. We cannot do this without your help!

Letters are being mailed out in June that will contain renewal return envelopes, or you can pay your membership dues fast and easy on our website: www.sharpsteenmuseum.org. From there simply click on the "JOIN AND SUPPORT" tab.

Don't forget that memberships make perfect gifts too!

Marcia Ciarlo, *Membership Chair*



1311 Washington St., P. O. Box 573
Calistoga, CA 94515
Tel: (707) 942-5911

Web: Sharpsteenmuseum.org
Email: info@sharpsteenmuseum.org

Museum House Tel: 942-5916
Museum Hours:
12-3 pm M-F; 11 am-4 pm Sat-Sun
(Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas)

BOARD MEMBERS:

Alan Rogers- President
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This Member Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of the Sharpsteen Museum Association, a non-profit 501(3)c organization.

Shari Hanson- Newsletter Editor

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Museum's mission is to preserve and to provide for public exhibitions and study of the history of the community of Calistoga and the upper Napa Valley.

NEW MEMBERS

Cassandra Gammello
Dominic Sharpsteen-Surina
Jeff & Shawnee Johnson
Kathy Oppenheimer

General Donations

Betsy Lawer
Anne Scott

In Memoriam

Betty Ballentine
Donna L Crane
Ann Tamagni Enderlin

Education Highlights

School Group Tour has Sharpsteen Family Connection

On April 21st Sharpsteen Museum hosted a group of 5 instructors and 12 students from the Glenn County Office of Education Success One! Charter School and Glenn Adult Program.

The museum was their first stop on this full day of travel (next stop after lunch was a visit to the Robert Louis Stevenson Museum in St. Helena). Field Trip Coordinator and Instructor Brian “Butch” Peterson said they prepared for this day by studying the life and work of Ben Sharpsteen. Ben’s son, Tom Sharpsteen, was Butch’s sixth-grade teacher at Fairview School in Orland, CA and the two enjoyed a lifetime friendship.

The students were interested in Ben’s Disney career, early Northern California History and Culture, and practicing their English-speaking skills. And, of course, the Star Wars exhibit was a big hit.

Special Group and School Tours can be arranged in advance by calling the Museum (707) 942-5911 and leaving a message.

Jackie Lang, *Education Chair*



Students and Instructors from Glenn County Office of Education

Young ones coming to visit this summer?

Bring them by the museum and let them engage in the “Scavenger Hunt” that was developed especially for the Sharpsteen Museum. You can download and print one from the museum website (www.sharpsteenmuseum.org) or pick up a copy at the museum when you arrive.



We Are Here to Help

We are so fortunate to have access to an unending amount of information about Napa Valley history. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of other historical organizations, we can share materials to supplement a special project or exhibit.

RECENT EXAMPLES--

St. Helena Historical Society- Historian Mariam Hansen’s recent lecture, “Stevenson’s Napa Valley”, followed RLS and new bride Fanny as they traveled up the Napa Valley - the Sharpsteen Museum provided many of the Calistoga photos, and there is even a print of Ben’s painting depicting the St. Helena Train Depot included in her presentation. If you missed the live lecture that was hosted by the Robert Louis Stevenson Museum, the video can be viewed online at the RLS Museum’s YouTube channel, using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihlnpDyGqZg>

Napa County Historical Society- Current exhibit “Shouting Down the Wind”, featuring 80 “pioneering” women includes Calistoga’s Emma Eels, who started The Callustro Company. The story of Mrs. Eels and the Callustro Co. is depicted in a shadowbox display in “Ben’s Room” in our museum. This business venture ultimately brought the Sharpsteens to Calistoga (a question often asked is how Ben ended up here). Exhibit runs through September 30, and is free to the public. More info: www.napahistory.org. Phone: 707-224-1739.

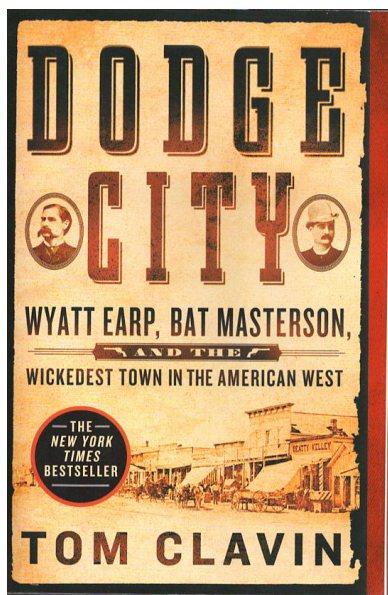
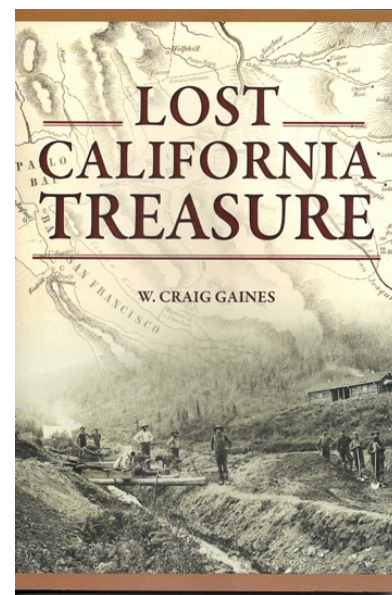


Kick back, pick up a book and relax for a change. There is more history than you can imagine between the pages of these three selections. Think Fathers' Day or Graduation gifts. All titles currently available for purchase at the Sharpsteen Museum. Members receive a 10% discount off retail cost, tax will be added. If you order books online there is no discount and tax and \$4.00 shipping is added. All purchases support the Sharpsteen events and programs and keep our doors open every day.

Kathy Bazzoli, *Book Chair*

Lost California Treasure: Lost Mines, Sunken Ships and Hidden Loot, by W. Craig Gaines.

Treasures, sunken cargo, and lost mines span the state from the Pacific Ocean to the Eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains. Lore tells us that outlaws the likes of Three Finger Jack and Joaquin Murrieta stashed their loot while evading the law. Sir Francis Drake's English pirates buried treasures all along the Pacific Coast. A bounty awaits, legendary and historic treasures yet to be found. Cost: \$23.99, 160 pgs.



Dodge City: Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson, and the Wickedest Town in the American West, by New York Times bestselling author, Tom Clavin.

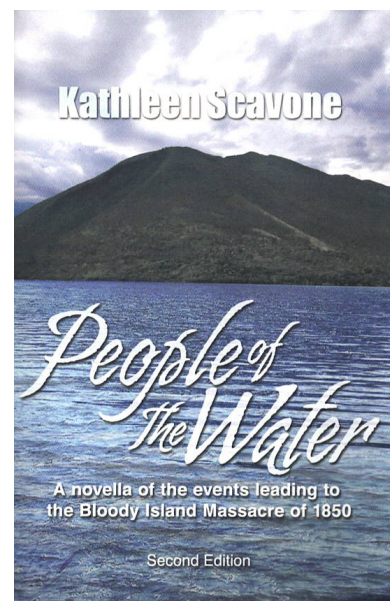
400 solid pages filled with humor and guts. By 1870, Dodge City's streets were lined with saloons and brothels, its populace thick with horse thieves, gunmen, and desperadoes. Enter Earp and Masterson to establish frontier justice. It doesn't end there. For more adventure and hi-jinx, enter the likes of Wild Bill Hickock, Jesse James, Doc Holliday, Buffalo Bill, John Wesley Hardin and even Theodore Roosevelt. Cost: \$17.99

1850, by Kathleen Scavone MA.

Told in story form and based on interviews as provided by the Clear Lake Pomo Culture Tribal Elders in the late 1800's to early 1900's. After years of enslavement, starvation and abuse by Andrew Kelsey & Charles Stone, the Pomo gathered to kill both evil men. They succeeded. To avenge Kelsey and Stone, the US Cavalry sent enumerable troops to Lake County, found Pomo families living on an island in the lake and proceeded to slaughter 200-600 Pomo men, women, and children. If they couldn't shoot or beat them, the innocents were simply drowned. This piece of local history is known as the Bloody Island Massacre.

Two separate historical markers record the site. One placed by the Native Sons of the Golden West on May 20, 1942 located 0.3 miles off Highway 20 on Reclamation Rd. The second is CA State Historical Landmark # 427 describing the location as the scene of the massacre, placed on Highway 20 at the Reclamation Rd. intersect on May 15, 2005. Cost \$12.99, 100 pgs.

People of the Water, a novella of the events leading to the Bloody Island Massacre of



Our Newsletter is Going Paperless!

In an effort to be more environmentally friendly, and to reduce our printing & mailing costs, our monthly newsletter is moving to an online (email) format by the end of the year. If you prefer to receive yours in the mail as in the past, all you need to do is let us know by opting in to keeping mail delivery by Dec. 29, 2023. You can call the museum, 707-942-



5911; write to us, 1311 Washington St. Calistoga CA 94515, or email: info@sharpsteenmuseum.org. For those who want to receive it electronically, please make sure we have your current email address. Thank you for contacting us with your preference today!

MESSAGE continued from pg 1

set-up or help out on the day of a special event or program or become a committee member such as Special Exhibits. If you would like more information about volunteer opportunities simply send us a message thru the website www.sharpsteenmuseum.org.

Board of Directors for fiscal year June 1, 2023-May 31, 2024 are:

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Docent Chair	Jane Bennett
Education Chair	Jackie Lang
Ways & Means Chair	Pat Larsen
Collections Chair	Bev Barnes
Media Chair	Eden Umble

Hope to see you all soon.

Sharpsteen Museum Board



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