

**HEAD TOWER NEWS**

# Shasta Lake Heritage & Historical Society

“Head Tower News” A “Boomtown Memories” newsletter

BOOMTOWN MUSEUM: 1525 Median St., City of Shasta Lake

NEW - Museum Hours: M/F/S 9 -1PM

Call 530-275-3995 for Special Events, Seasonal & Holiday schedule

Email: slhandhs@gmail.com / Correspondence: P.O. Box 562, City of Shasta Lake CA 96019

www.shastalakehistorical.org FB Shasta Lake Heritage & Historical Society

Volume 19 #58 Issue1

**DIGGIN' UP SOME HISTORY**

March 2023

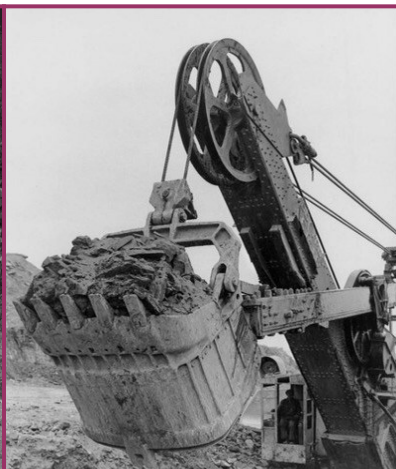
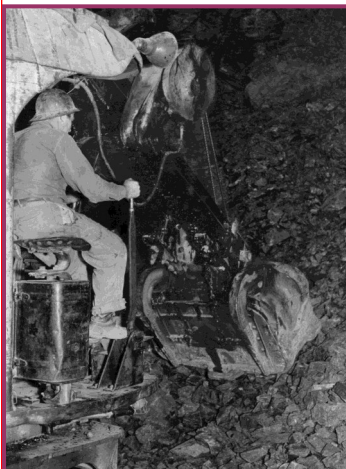
We've added *another piece of history* to our museum location! Old shrubs were removed; the area was cleaned and prepped with a bed of sand & gravel for the arrival of the 2 cubic yard excavator bucket. It is located on the corner of Median & Main St.



SLPW crew: Chad, Jeff, Dave, Cory, Chuck, Jim and Chet.



Donated by **Gaven and Monika Glanzer**



Comparison: CSU Chico Shasta Dam digital collection c1938: photos of excavator buckets used during the construction of Shasta Dam. Lt: a shovel operating in the south heading - removing muck from the RR by-pass tunnel. Rt: 5 yard bucket on a Bucyrus-Erie shovel used in abutment excavation.

The historical excavator bucket pictured above was manufactured by the AMSCO Company in Ohio. “AMSCO” stands for American Manganese Steel Company. The company established in 1915 is still in business.

Our thanks to: *Gaven & Monika Glanzer of Redding for their thoughtful donation*, and to Will Bond, Shasta Lake City Engineer for contacting us; SL Parks & Recreation Commission & SL Public Works for their assistance and SLHHS volunteer Rick Fox for his research & data. SLHHS plans are in the making for an informative plaque to be displayed nearby.

According to Gaven, this two cubic yard bucket was part of a Bucyrus Erie Shovel used by Columbia Construction, a joint venture between George Kutras and Henry Kaiser to mine aggregates at Turtle Bay (aka Kutras Tract). Columbia won the bid to supply aggregate to the US Bureau of Reclamation to build Shasta Dam (via the 9.6 mile conveyer belt). Kaiser was familiar with the area due to his building of the cement Highway 99 between Red Bluff and Anderson.

*We try to be accurate but please, we are not liable for any additions, omissions, errors and/or corrections that may occur in this publication. Any photographs or material used may not be scanned and/or reprinted or reproduced without contacting us for permission of use. Thank you.*  
Darlene V. Brown, Editor and Alice Scarbrough, Asst. Editor

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

**The museum was transformed into a place of honor to thank our military men and women for their service to our country. The displays were assembled in time for the annual Veterans Day Parade on November 5th, 2022 in our city. Fortunately for all of us living in a drought, it poured rain that day! Not ideal circumstances for a parade BUT, that didn't deter many of the veterans who came to our city to participate nor the people who attended it - as you would hear folks say, "Our veterans fought in the rain, mud and worse conditions, we had to come here today to honor them for their service."**



l/r: **Veterans:** JC Cladopoulos, US Marine Corps; Craig Kimball, US Navy in Army raingear.



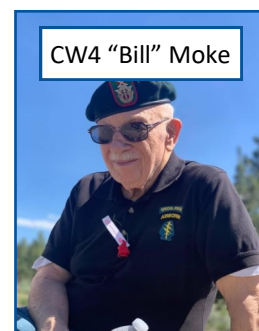
1st Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Sgt. Kevin Knapp set up a display honoring medical Sergeant 1st Class **Allen C. Johnson**, age 31, a native of Los Molinos, CA. Johnson died 4/26/2005 when his unit was attacked by enemy small arms fire during a combat foot patrol in Khanaqin, Afghanistan. He was posthumously awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star Medal, The Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Combat Medical Badge. Johnson is the namesake for the SF Assoc. No. California Chap.#89 - more members shown below:



Kevin Knapp c1981



Larry Trimble  
2021 Parade Grand Marshall



CW4 "Bill" Moke

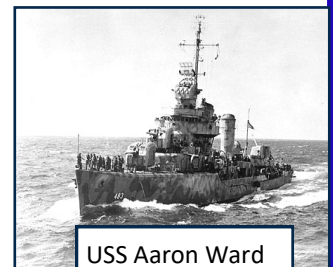


**Don Windle** visited the museum after participating in the Veterans Parade, this is his story:



Don joined the Navy at age 16 in 1942 serving 27 years until he retired in 1969 as a Lieutenant Commander. Incredibly, he served our country during WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. In Don's words, during WWII he was "shot at and shot back", was "not shot at and did not shoot" during the Korean War, and "shot at and did not shoot back" during the Vietnam War.

He was onboard the destroyer minelayer *USS Aaron Ward* on May 3, 1945, helping blaze the way for the invasion of Okinawa, when it was attacked by 25 Japanese kamikazes. The *Aaron Ward* and another destroyer, the *USS Little*, were stationed between the main fleet and Japan. Their job was to protect the battleships and carriers from kamikazes. The first plane of the 25 that attacked hit the *Little* on her torpedo tubes and she sank in just a few minutes. With the *Little* gone, the *Aaron Ward* put up a valiant fight and managed to shoot down several kamikazes. Alas, the ship was not invincible and was hit by six kamikazes, three of them carrying 500lb. bombs. Among the horrendous carnage was more than 100 casualties, and 42 *Aaron* warriors had been killed. Despite the devastating damage, with the ship being dead in the water, the crew of the *Aaron Ward* was able to keep the ship afloat throughout the night until getting help in the morning.



USS Aaron Ward

Don later became a Seabee, and documented his experiences in a published novel titled, "Where Bees Swarm" about Seabees during the Vietnam War. For Don, the most rewarding aspect of serving was that he needed discipline and maturity, and he definitely got both! The most challenging time was after he married and had to leave his wife and children.

**Footnote:** Don (97) is one of the longest serving veterans living at the Veterans Home in Redding. They love having him reside there and thank him for his service. This article was written about him at the Veteran's home.

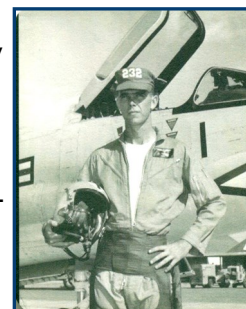


Treasured memorabilia provided by his family was on display honoring the service of the late Richard J. Pederson, a “Dam Kid” and U.S. Marine Aviator. Arriving for the exhibit were SLHHS Benefactors and family members from Alaska, Colorado and California. l/r: Lindsay Pederson Nelson; Adrienne Pederson; Marlys Pederson Barbosa, Alex Barbosa and Tammy Stewart.

Taken from the story “Dick” wrote for our *Those Dam Kids* book: “One summer afternoon after the war, I was walking up the main drag when I heard a loud rumbling behind me. And when I turned there it was! A B-17 Flying Fortress, flying up the street at about 300 feet. As it passed, I saw the nose gunner waving to anyone who was out, including me. I waved back, but in a twinkling, they were gone. I was later told that they were just back from the

war and had decided to over-fly the home towns of each of the crew members on the way to their new base.” His daughter Adrienne wrote to us, “Maybe this event set Dick’s course in life” as she provided us with the following highlights of his naval career:

Dick joined the Marine Corps, completed flight school at Pensacola Air Station and became a Naval Aviator in July 1958. His squadron, “the Red Devils”, based at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, flew F-8 Crusaders. By December 1966, they flew combat sorties out of Da Nang Air Base, South Vietnam. For 290 consecutive days, the squadron flew 5,785 sorties - 7,273 flight hours, delivering 6,221 tons of ordnance. Equipped with TPQ-10 bombing radar receivers, it made them ideal close air support platforms and the only aircraft capable of carrying 2,000-pound bombs until the arrival of Marine A-6 Intruders.



In September 1967, the squadron returned to MCAS El Toro in So. California and painted the *Red Devil* insignia on their new McDonald Douglas F-4 Phantoms. Renamed Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232, they were based at MCAS Iwakuni Japan, as a MIG-alert squadron and then deployed to Da Nang, Vietnam and Royal Thai Air Base Nam Phong, Thailand.

Dick retired from the Marine Corps in 1976, after spending as little time as possible behind a desk. At the time of his death 2/28/22, Lt. Colonel Richard J. Pederson was the most senior Marine in the state of Colorado.



F.X. Loughrey

One of the most fun happenings at the Boomtown Museum is when someone walks through our doors bearing items from the past. Sometimes folks are shy about bringing in their old treasures; but we are always thrilled with their offerings. Our responses are always in the vein of “You bet” or “Absolutely”.

Such was the case recently when **Stephen Loughrey** visited the museum to see the Jeep on display. It reminded him of the Jeep his father drove in WWII. He asked if we wanted any more military memorabilia to display and then donated some relics from his father, **FRANCIS X. LOUGHERY**, a U.S. Army Sergeant who had served in World War II battles from North Africa, and northward into Europe. Among many and varied escapades and assignments, FXL served several years as a driver for the well-known *General Laurence Truscott*. His souvenirs of GI gear even include a “Prince Albert” tobacco can. (Some of you may remember the old telephone joke about letting Prince Albert out of the can?) All the items were wonderful to see and brought back memories for many a veteran.

The *crème de la crème*, however, is the book called “A Fork in the Road”, that Stephen and family had compiled from Sgt. Loughrey’s writings of those infamous years of WWII—up to and including after the war when the Sergeant smuggled his beautiful Italian war bride Ivana, their baby Kathleen, and a pet dog on a Liberty Ship returning GIs to America.

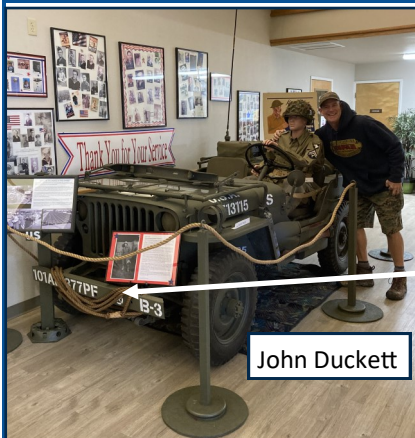
A very personal and engrossing account of Sgt. Loughrey, a soldier of the “*Greatest Generation*” and definitely worth the read. Thank you for sharing, Stephen. *By Alice Scarbrough*



Ivana



General L. Truscott



John Duckett



Bill Sobiski

In our lobby the week of the Veterans Day parade was a WWII jeep belonging to our former City Manager John Duckett, a passionate historian on World War II.

A tight squeeze, the feat was accomplished thanks to our City's help. The front doors to the building were removed and replaced after John drove his Jeep up the sidewalk and with a 1/4 inch of jamb clearance, into the lobby of our building while being filmed by Sade Brown from Channel 7 News.

John made the license plate on his Jeep a replica of the one on Bill Sobiski's Jeep in WWII, and



the "driver mannequin" was dressed in a 101st Airborne uniform and now, the rest of John's story...

**M**y cousin Iris's husband, Bill Sobiski, was a member of the famous 101st Airborne Division during World War II. The exploits of the 101st during the war is depicted in the 10-part HBO mini-series Band of Brothers. The paratroopers of the 101st were trained well and were considered one of the US Army's most elite fighting units at that time. The 101st took a lead roll in the liberation of the European continent from German occupation parachuting behind enemy lines in Normandy, France on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

Bill was adopted by a family at a young age and grew up in Pennsylvania. With the permission of his mother, he enlisted in the US Army at the age of 17 in 1940. At that time the United States had only 269,000 men in the Army. By 1945 there would be well over 8 million men and women in the Army. I have Bill's records that show that upon the outbreak of war he rapidly promoted up from Private to Sergeant. With so many new recruits coming into the military after the US joined the war, Bill was likely considered a well-trained old hand at 18 years of age.

Initially, Bill was in the 16th Field Artillery Battalion. However, due to some unknown issues, he eventually transferred to the 377th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion as a Private in 1944. The 377th was attached to the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne. Bill was part of a 75-millimeter Howitzer gun crew that saw heavy combat in the European Theater the winter/spring of 1944-45.



Arriving in Holland in a glider with his Howitzer and gun crew in September 1944, Bill participated in Operation Market Garden. Operation Market Garden was one of the largest US Airborne invasions of the war. The 101st supported



Gen. McAuliffe, center

British tank crews in a failed attempt to enter Germany and end the war before Christmas 1944.

Bill was in Bastogne, Belgium with the 101st Airborne Division in December 1944 when the Germans conducted a massive offensive attacking US front lines. The Germans eventually encircled the entire 101st Division. This offensive is known as the Battle of the Bulge. It was rough, but the 101st held out. When the Germans demanded they surrender, since they were completely surrounded, General McAuliffe famously sent the one word reply to the German commanding officer...NUTS! The 101st did not surrender and held out for 8 days completely surrounded by the Germans.

The 101st eventually fought their way through Germany and ended the war at Hitler's Eagles Nest in the Austrian Alps. Bill attained the rank of Corporal and eventually returned to the US. He married Iris and in 1946 they settled on Main Street in Central Valley, CA which became the City of Shasta Lake in 1993.

By John Duckett

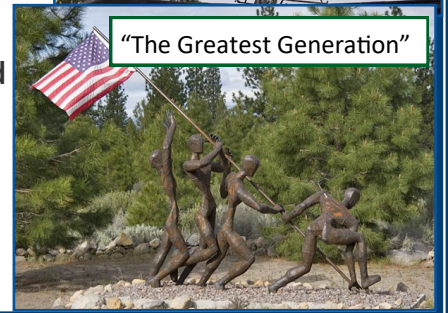
In northern CA one can find *The Living Memorial Sculpture Garden*. It rests upon the northwestern slope of Mt Shasta, 13 miles north of the City of Weed, on Hwy 97 in Siskiyou County, California. The site includes the *Hot LZ Memorial Wall*, *The Labyrinth*, and eleven sculptures (one lost) by artist Dennis Smith.



The LMSG pays homage to all honorable veterans, in conflict and in peace and was founded by a group of veterans in 1988. Today, the Garden is proudly sponsored & maintained by the Kiwanis Club of Weed/ Lake Shastina. The information given and photos shown are taken from their website: <https://www.lmsgarden.org>



It is situated on 136 acres of land provided by the USDA Forest Service, which were replanted with tens of thousands of trees by countless volunteers. The trees are living tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives in war. The sculpture garden is a place for reflection & remembrance, healing & reconciliation.



**Ron Joliff** volunteers with Anderson Historical Society, is a history buff and has written several books. He retired in 2005 with 37+ years of service in Army Security, a second tour in Vietnam and then Army Reserves. Since a young lad, his passion is collecting military badges. A collection in the hundreds from ALL military services, wartime and not, he loaned to us several displays (i.e. the badges shown on right) and the information about their origin. We asked Ron about the *State/National Guard* badges and the following article is highlights from his research on the topic.



A newspaper article mentioned the **California State Guard**, an organization generally overlooked when it comes to recognition and raised the question, *How does the California State Guard differ from the California National Guard?* Both are part of the State Defense Forces of CA and in the roughest sense the *State Guard* replaces the *National Guard* when they are called into federal service.

*The State Guard* originated during World War One and was discontinued in 1920. They were to be used within the state, were not subject to activation to the Regular Army, and not be used in industrial disputes. The Federal Home Guard Act authorized states to use weapons but California refused. Still, by the end WWI, some were self-armed.

During World War Two, the federal government called California's 40th Infantry Division and two Coast Artillery Regiments to active service. In response California authorized a *State Guard* in January 1941 and by the end of '41 its numbers reached 21,615. *The Guard on duty wore the Regular Army uniform with a distinctive patch. (pictured upper left)*

California organized 13 infantry regiments, its headquarters at Sacramento with the Governor in command. Duties were guarding the lines of communication, military facilities, and vital installations such as the electrical generation plant at Shasta Dam. Over 75,000 Californians served in the *State Guard* during WWII. At war's end, the unit was deactivated.

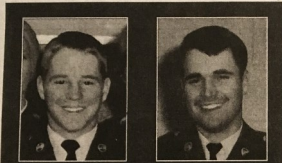


In 1950 one third of the **California National Guard** was called to active service for the Korean War. California responded by authorizing the **California State Military Reserve**. In 1976 the *California State Military Reserve* was again authorized but was not deactivated. It continues as an integral part of the California Defense Forces. *(pictured left).*

*Patches in the Ron Joliff Collection*

NEW WASHINGTON HERALD Thurs., September 22, 2022

## Old Friends Reunited After 51 Years



Jerome and Dave  
Dave and Jerome



Highlights of an article written in the New Washington Herald newspaper in Ohio last year about Dave Thompson of Shasta Lake, Past Commander of American Legion Post #720 and a retired local elementary school teacher and basketball coach.

“After over fifty one years, **Dave Thompson** and Jerome Heydinger reunited this past week. Dave and his wife Julie, Shasta Lake, CA came to New Washington to visit.

Dave & Jerome were roommates in the Air Force dental assistant program. They lost touch with each other until two years ago when Dave found Jerome through the internet and have been regularly texting and calling each other since. Dave and Julie thoroughly enjoyed their time here in New Washington, especially seeing where the new Veterans Memorial Park is being started as Dave is involved with the AL in his hometown. His Legion Post (#720) provided clothes, food, and other supplies after the Carr fires hit his area.

Dave’s visit here included visiting Amish country, Planktown Market and Auction, an Air Force Museum and other sites. He enjoyed attending the local Legion meeting; he has held various offices at the district level in CA. He served four years in the Air Force. He then went to college to become an educator. He is now retired but still teaching CCW (concealed carry) classes and renewing a pilot’s license.”

### REMEMBRANCE - Longtime members of SLHHS and the community:



**Jack Powell** 9/18/29- 12/12/22 “A Dam Kid” - Jack’s family story about arriving in this area so his dad could work on Shasta Dam is in our book, *Those Dam Kids*. A man with a story and a smile to match it, we are grateful for the memories he and his wife Darlene for 67 years before her passing, shared with us. Jack went to Toyon School and Shasta High School then enlisted in the Navy. He was a Seabee as a Heavy Equipment Mechanic, stationed in Guam during the Korean War. Returning home, he was a loyal member of the Operating Engineers Local#3 building roads in No. California. He and Darlene had lived in the boomtown “Summit City” area for over 85 years. He was the historian for the American Legion Post #720. You could always count on Jack offering to drive his 1968 Chevle convertible to carry dignitaries in the Damboree parades.



**Gertrude “Judy” Ricks** 11/19/24-1/5/2023 - was the second oldest of a family of 10 girls and two boys! She met her late husband Billy Jo Ricks at a church sponsored dance for servicemen in Colorado before he was sent to the Pacific during WWII. His photo and his “pinup girl, Judy” are in the DVD *Honoring Our Veterans*. After two years of a letter writing courtship, he came home and they married. Bill worked for Division of Highways (Cal-Trans). They came to Central Valley in 1955 and both of them were active at the American Legion Post #720. Judy ran a personal daycare in her home for 40+ years while donating many hours of service to St. Michael’s Catholic Church and helping others. A beautiful person filled with loving kindness to many.

## GIFT SHOP

Celebrate **St. Patrick’s Day!** Fill “**My Dam Mug**” with **Boomtown coffee**, set it on a crocheted **shamrock**, maybe a wee bit of Irish

Whiskey, our **new local honey “Runicible Bloom”**, some whipped cream....delicious!!!

AND pick up a story for the “wee” ones.....



New items arriving for **Easter April 9th**  
Shop local - shop online - support the museum

HELLO EVERYONE. It's been awhile and we THANK YOU as always for supporting our efforts!

*What's been happening since our last newsletter and what is going to be happening?*

2022 **OCTOBER: SLHHS dinner** by BC Catering for members and guests plus a fun evening while raising over

\$1500 on our raffle. A sell out crowd! The Town of Kennett was the theme - *Behrens-Eaton Museum* loaned us mannequin costumes; *Frank Martinez* portrayed Diamond Jim, *SL Garden Project* decorated the tables; *Pat Karsh* tickled the ivories, *FFA* students bused the tables and volunteers were aplenty setting up, serving wine, running the raffle and more. Hard work by everyone involved. Many, many thanks to ALL. We even had Benefactors from afar: *Gary & Marilyn/Omaha, NE; Nancy/ Med-*



This many for \$20

*ford, OR; Bert & daughter Lynde/Salinas; Betty/Paradise and Dick & Mary /Sacramento.*

**NOVEMBER: Veterans Parade** - *Mike & Donna* drove their car sponsoring us.

**Museum** - Displays honoring Veterans; donations of military memorabilia.

We've added more Veteran photos to our collages in the lobby. Thank you everyone who gave us new photos; we will list the names in a later issue.

**Community Holiday Bazaar** - Another great year with other non-profits and churches. We made over \$1700 in candy sales! The same dynamic group of CVHS/FFA students worked all day alongside our volunteers.

**2023 JANUARY:** A new piece of history (article on front page).

**FEBRUARY: Valentine's Day Cookie Sale:** We made over \$1600 in sales - thanks to our wonderful volunteers and cooks (they make the delicious candy too).

We elected a new **Board Director** - *Joan Fackrell* - (more about Joan in the next newsletter).

**MARCH/APRIL** brings change. Our Spring displays: **"LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!"** will have assorted cameras and slide/film projectors showing vintage photos and film - **have any old slides or film about the area?** Let us know - loan them to us for the display. It should be fun and interesting.

Work progresses on the book: *"Why Can't I?" Empowered women of Shasta County* - Thanks to *Ron Joliff/AHS* (our book partner), we received a \$2500 grant from the *Women's Fund*. Volunteers are still needed to edit/type stories. Please contact us if you are able to help.

Rain, snow & sunshine - Hope to see you soon! - **Darlene**



Holiday Bazaar

### THANK YOU FOR NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS THIS YEAR - YOU ARE WHY WE ARE.....

**BENEFACTORS:** Charlotte Bailey/Redding; Wendell Baker/Grand Terrace; Alex & Krista Barbosa/Anchorage, AK; Marlys Barbosa/Redding; David & Susan Bellone/Aromas; Gary Bohn/Omaha, NE; Marilyn Bohn/Redding; Floyd & Melody Christenson/Shasta Lake; Gale Clarke/Redding; Larris & Betty Dorman/Paradise; A&A Dyer-Living Stone Electric/Shasta Lake; Jeanie Fogle/Veneta, OR; Dwain Harty/Redding; Roy & Cheryl Hull/Shingletown; John & Margaret Kenney/Redding; Betty & Phil Leas/Weed; Irene Linkhart, ShingleSprings; Craig & Jesseca Lugo/Redding; William "Bill" Polf/Ferrington/NC; Joe & Nicole Preston/Palo Alto and Audrey Wyatt-Riley/Grand Terrace.

**BUSINESS:** Feather Bear Designs/Shasta Lake and Heritage Coffee Shop/Shasta Lake

**FAMILY:** Linda Beaver/Shasta Lake; Karen Butler/Shasta Lake; Sunday Fitzgerald/Redding; and Ron & Candace Joliff/Redding. **INDIVIDUALS:** Janet Battistini/Walnut Creek; Valerie Peterson Cantwell/Redding; Josephine Lawson/Tygh, OR; Opal Mendenhall/Red Bluff; David M. Peterson/Mt.Shasta; Dick Roseberry/Redding and Ed VanVykt/Redding

#### THANK YOU FOR:

**Monetary donations:** Josephine Lawson \$15 ; Lorraine Goyne (\$75 towards our book); and the "extra" from Benefactors: Alex & Krista Barbosa \$500; Larris & Betty Dorman \$500; Bill Polf \$300 and Joe & Nicole Preston \$1000.

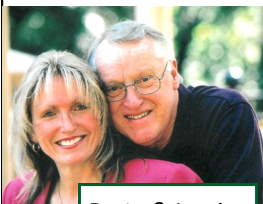
**Items:** Tom Tenney for Vietnam Veteran names for our files; Justin Jones for vintage street signs; Warren Harden for hard bound book of "Shasta County History", Pat Edelstein for Civil War costumes and Connie Fairfield Ganz for her book, "California Cowgirl".

Shasta Lake Heritage & Historical Society  
P.O. Box 562 Shasta Lake, CA 96019  
Visitors Center: *Boomtown Museum*  
1525 Median St., Shasta Lake  
530-275-3995  
501c3 non-profit organization

**IN MEMORIUM**



**RoseAnn (Howard) Hayden 3/15/44- 11/30/22** CVHS 1962  
siblings Jane Williams, Ron Howard & the late Sally Rossiter.



Betty & Larris

**Larris Dorman 1940 - 2/11/2023**  
“Larry” was an SLHHS Benefactor and on the Finance Advisory Board. He married the late Judy Byers in 1960. Larry grew up in Central Valley in the 50’s, cherished his friends and his sweetheart, Judy. His brother Dwight lives in Shasta Lake. In June 2009 he married Betty (Sexton) and they would drive up to the museum together. Their Paradise home was consumed by fire losing everything but the cherished memories.



**Joe Kuschell 8/14/1949—2/27/2023**  
Born in Ireland and came to the US at age two. Joe loved his family, his Catholic religion and “Everything Baseball” - a Chicago Cubs Fan forever. He was a pitching coach at Foothill, Simpson and UPrep. Joe and his

wife Cathy helped us at our annual dinner last year—Joe tending to the wine bar and Cathy taking pictures.

*Love history?* Become a member.

**Membership dues are renewable January of each year.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

NEWSLETTER - check email  OR paper?

**Please check the applicable boxes:**

Individual \$10  Family \$25

Business \$25  Benefactor \$100

**Board of Directors:**

President: Darlene Brown 530-604-7771  
Vice President: Mike Daniels 530-275-2672  
Recording Secretary: Rick Fox  
Treasurer: Kay Kobe  
Directors:  
Pete Drosch, Sandy Estes,  
Joan Fackrell, Del Hiebert and Lena Locke