



CLARKE MUSEUM

Fall 2013

HONORING OUR VETERANS ON NOVEMBER 11th



WWII Veteran Bill Davis

Join us on Tuesday, November 11th from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. to celebrate our local WWII veterans. To commemorate the day, the Clarke Museum will display Kathrin Burleson's Faces of American Heroes portraits. Over 150 drawings have been completed of local WWII veterans, all of which will be donated to the museum with a special unveiling celebration on Veterans Day. A reception will be held for Humboldt County service men and women.

Kathrin Burleson is co-founder of North Coast Honor Flight, a program that has taken over 200 WWII veterans to Washington DC to visit the memorial that was built in their honor. Over the past two years, her artistic focus is drawing and interviewing these veterans, most of whom are around 90 years old.

HUMBOLDT STATE TURNS 100!

On June 16, 1913, California Gov. Hiram Johnson signed the law establishing "Humboldt State Normal School, for the training and education of teachers and others in the art of instructing and governing the public schools of this state."

The first classes at Humboldt State Normal School began on April 6, 1914, with 62 students in a small building near the rural bottoms of Arcata. By May of 1915, the school would celebrate its first graduating class of 15 women. The school was established to meet the demand for qualified teachers, which were needed following a state-wide education statute. Accordingly, the school offered four teacher-preparation programs all based on the student's own experience levels.



Photo courtesy of HSU Public Affairs Collection.

From these humble beginnings, the University has grown into the prestigious institution we know today. To celebrate the first 100 years, the museum is highlighting a few of the many accomplishments the university boasts.

The new exhibit explores four aspects of this rich history: Susie Baker Fountain and the first graduating class, HSU's first Olympian, Elta Cartwright, KHSU and the Indian Teacher and Personnel Program (ITEPP). Emphasizing the historical importance, multiculturalism and their connection to the local and worldwide community over these last 100 years, we are proud to help showcase HSU's past and present.

CALENDAR:

Saturday, October 19th ~ Archeology Day ~ 12 - 3 p.m.

Saturday, October 26th ~ Old Town Trick or Treat ~ 2 - 5 p.m. ~ Spirits for Spirits ~ evening

Sat., Nov. 2nd ~ Music: Redwood Dixie Gators ~ Humboldt Hot Sauce Tasting ~ 6 - 9 p.m.

Monday, November 11th ~ Honor Flights Portrait Event ~ 1 - 3 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 7th ~ Music: Scotia Band Ensemble ~ Katy Tahja Book Signing ~ 6 - 9 p.m.

Saturday, January 25, 2014 ~ Murder Mystery Fundraiser

The Mission of the Clarke Historical Museum is the acquisition, preservation and educational display of objects relating to the history of Eureka and Humboldt County, in order to further appreciation by residents, visitors and school children of the area's rich and diverse heritage, and to promote increased visitation to our historic region.

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CLARKE HISTORICAL MUSEUM



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CELEBRATING 100 YEAR OF 4-H IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY

That Humboldt county is the first in the state to take advantage of the new [Cooperative Extension], and give her farmers the advantage of scientific advice on farm problems, is a matter of pride to her citizens, and is proving of great value to the agricultural industry of the county" - L. Irvine

In the early 1900s, Humboldt County was extremely remote—no railroads led into the county, so it was generally reached by boat and some road access during summer months. However, Humboldt had a growing dairy industry and a booming lumber industry. Its agricultural production was also flourishing. By 1914, Humboldt County was home to 1,534 farmers, who on average owned 300 acres of farmland and produced up to 12 tons of vegetables or fruit per acre, with the potential to produce more if provided up-to-date, scientific information and advice on crop improvement. A Cooperative Extension farm advisor would be able to provide these services but, as required by UC, Humboldt County first had to allocate funding to help support extension work as well as organize a “farm bureau,” a group of farmers that would guide the farm advisor. As a result, Humboldt was the first county in California to create a farm bureau, which is now part of the California Farm Bureau Federation.

In July 1913, anticipating the passage of the Smith-Lever Act, Humboldt County, with the support of the newly formed farm bureau, appointed Andrew H. Christiansen as the first Cooperative Extension farm advisor in California. Humboldt residents were proud of their initiative, which reflected their eagerness to improve the county’s agricultural industries. With the new farm advisor, Arcata, Ferndale and Fortuna established the first 4-H clubs in California in October 1913, formalizing youth education and civic engagement as a cornerstone of the Cooperative Extension program.

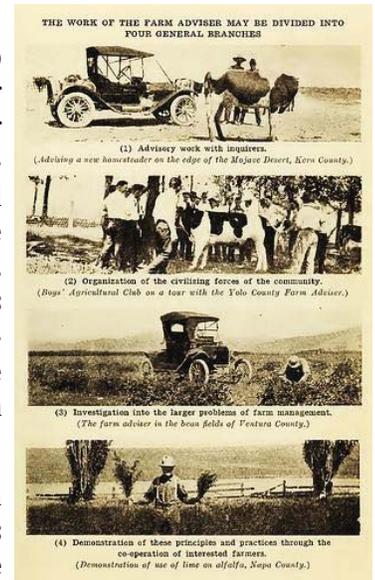
In November, a new exhibit at the Clarke Museum will explore the history of 4-H from 1913 to present day. Continue to check the Clarke Museum website (www.clarkemuseum.org) and Facebook page for 4-H related events, which include a petting zoo, a dog obedience training demonstration, and much more.

SPIRITS FOR SPIRITS AT THE CLARKE MUSEUM

It's that time of year again! Join Lost Coast Rotaract for the 3rd annual 'Spirits and Spirits' Walking Ghost Tour of Old Town Eureka! This haunted walking tour will be led by local teacher and historian Eric Vollmers of Eureka's Haunted History Ghost Tours and will include sordid tales of Old Town Eureka's history. There will be 3 tours total. Departing times are at 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. from Los Bagels (403 2nd Street, Eureka). Drinks will be available at numerous stops throughout the tour.

Afterwards join the Rotaracts for a party at Wolf Dawg (525 2nd Street, Eureka). There will be music, dancing, a costume contest, appetizers, and no host bar and dawgs.

This event is a fundraiser for CASA of Humboldt and the Clarke Historical Museum. Ticket are \$30 per person and include an event glass, four taster drinks during the tour, and entrance into the after party. This is an all ages event but we suggest 12 years and older. Non-alcoholic drinks will be available. Tickets are available at Wolf Dawg and online at <http://spirits2013.bpt.me/>. For more information contact Ashliegh Diehl, Lost Coast Rotaract Fundraising Chair at (707) 599-6773 or ashliegh@hhh-cpa.com. Get your tickets today and join us for a goolish good time!



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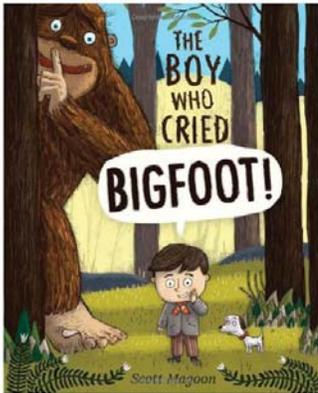


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NEW GIFTS IN THE MUSEUM STORE



The Clarke Museum's gift shop had a record breaking sales year. Thank you to everyone who shops in the museum store. Remember, there is no suggested donation for entrance to the museum if you are just stopping by to shop, so come by for a few minutes the next time you are in Old Town. Museum members receive a 10% discount on all purchases.

We have several new items for sale. In the jewelry section you will find beautiful necklaces, bracelets and earring by Happy Camp Jade. The museum has burl bowls, rolling pins and vases made by Charlie's Woodcraft - take a piece of the redwoods home with you or send a piece to family and friends. We also have the Bigfoot Field Guide and vials of Bigfoot hair. For kids there are three new books in the gift shop. *The Boy Who Cried Bigfoot* is a fun new take on the boy who cried wolf, *The Little Princess and the Bubble* is a bedtime story wonderfully illustrated by local artist Kay Bean, and *Dragonflies of North America* is an educational coloring book for all ages.

The much anticipated book *From Sawdust to Uranium: 130 Years of Electricity in Humboldt County* is now available for purchase. We also have *The Handbook of Victorian Etiquette*, *An Everyday History of Somewhere*, and the *Weaving through Time* DVD back in stock. When you shop at the Clarke gift shop you are supporting both the museum and local artists and authors.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The end of summer saw another successful Salmon, Oysters, Ales and Rails fundraiser. The Clarke Museum and the Timber Heritage Association would like to thank the many volunteers and sponsors who contributed to the event. It took a tremendous effort by our volunteers and Boy Scout Troop 27 to pull off this great event, which drew nearly 500 people. We couldn't have done it without you! Special thanks to our sponsors: Times Standard, Times Printing, Coast Seafood, KIEM News Channel 3, Coldwell Banker Cutten Realty, Hilfiker Pipe Co., Matsen Insurance, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, O&M Industries, Pacific Choice Seafood, PG&E, Redwood Dixie Gators, Redwood Fields, Renner Petroleum, Shafer's Ace Hardware, Suddenlink, Ten Window Williams and Umpqua Bank.

CELEBRATE ARCHEOLOGY DAY AT THE CLARKE MUSEUM

On Saturday, October 19th from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. the Clarke Museum will present an educational day of archaeology and fun. Come find out what archaeology is all about! Speak to local archaeologists and see archeology exhibits. There will demonstrations about basket weaving and making stone tools and bows. Children of all ages can enjoy participating in hands on activities. This is a free and family friendly event.



GETTING INTO THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Last year the Clarke Museum received a generous donation from a long time member around Chrimastime. With the check, there was a letter that explained a wonderful family tradition. Each year, instead of exchanging gifts, family members all put money in a pot, along with the name of an organization they want to donate to. One name is drawn and the proceeds then go to the name drawn. Last year the Clarke was selected.

So if you want an alternative to the consumerism of the holiday season then consider starting your own donation tradition. There are plenty of worthy non-profits in Humboldt County that would appreciate a gift from Santa.

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Clarke Historical Museum Newsletter. Published Quarterly.
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WALKING TO HUMBOLDT BAY



LK Wood

On 11/05/1849, a party of 8 men left a site (later known as Rich Bar) on the Trinity River in the north central area of what would soon be the State of California, their goal a bay along the Pacific coast. One of the eight men was L. K. Wood, a Kentuckian by birth, who later returned to the coastal area the 8 men reached to become a settler. He established a farm in the Union-Arcata area and was Humboldt County's first Recorder. In 1872, he wrote what he called "a narrative", 22 pages long, titled "The Discovery of Humboldt Bay".

The situation of Wood and the others along the Trinity in October, 1849, was very uncomfortable. Lack of food was a serious issue. Continuous heavy rainfall exacerbated conditions. Native American guides spoke of a large bay 8 days walk westward, over the mountains to the Pacific coast and agreed to show the way. A leader, Dr. Josiah Gregg, who already had an adventurous life behind him, arose from the group and began enlisting men to attempt the journey; 24 agreed to take part. However, the rains persisted and the Native American guides, knowing the rains at Rich Bar would be snowfalls and huge drifts in the mountains to the west, withdrew their offer to act as guides. As the departure date neared, most of those enlisted also demurred until only 8 remained. In addition to Gregg and Wood, they were Thomas Seabring, J.B. Truesdale, Isaac Wilson, Charles Southard, David Buck, who, like Wood, would return and settle in the Humboldt Bay area, the town of Bucksport, now part of Eureka, named for him, and the 8th, listed by Wood as "_____ Van Duzen". (Possibly Wood could not recall Van Duzen's first name, James, or perhaps Van Duzen went by the name of "Van". Which or whatever, he had a beautiful river named for him.)

As the mountain ranges of California run on a north-south line, traveling westward meant a near-continual wearying climb and descend pattern. On the second day out, the party reached South Fork and, unable to cross it, followed it to its junction with the Trinity. Rain and snow continued. Food supplies dwindled and the group was forced to stop for days to hunt. The pack animals also suffered; several starved to death or had to be abandoned. Native American settlements were chanced upon with widely varying results: in one case, all the natives fled in panic, in another, it was the travelers' turn to feel threatened. Eventually, redwood forests were reached and these were found to be difficult passageways lacking in food. The group averaged 7 miles a day through the mountains, only 2 miles a day in the redwood forests due to the "immense quantity of fallen timber", so dense it often required cutting through to proceed.

Finally, striking camp one evening, the sound of rolling surf reached their ears. The following morning, Wilson and Van Duzen were sent to reconnoiter and, upon their return, the whole group moved coastward. They struck the coast at a watercourse they named "Little River". Contact with the Native Americans of the area sometimes provided food; mussels and dried salmon, in one case. After exploration northward the group headed south reaching a larger river which they crossed with Native American canoes—except for Dr. Gregg who, engaged in scientific work, had to make a dash for the last canoe. Gregg held his temper until they reached the other side of the river, then unleashed a torrent of abuse toward the others who had nearly abandoned him. Thus, the river acquired the name, "Mad", in honor of Gregg's tirade. The party continued southward. Camping that night, the evening of 12/20/1849. Buck and Wood went out searching for a fresh water supply. Buck returned from a bay with a pot of water that proved to be too salty to drink. The party named the bay, Trinity Bay, but, according to Wood, before members of the party could return to it as settlers, Capt. Douglass Ottinger reached it by water and named it Humboldt Bay, after the well-known German scientist and writer. The party camped and explored the area for some time. While at Humboldt Pt., they were visited by a friendly Native American chieftain who supplied them with clams. He was named "Ki-we-lah-tah" and (Wood notes) he was still alive as of 1872. Heading south, they reached a river they named the "Eel" because they took there a large number of eels (actually Pacific lampreys) from Native Americans before crossing the river in canoes. Two days of rest commenced; a time when disagreements about how best to accomplish a return journey came to a head. Dr. Gregg, by this point, had lost the position of leadership and, it would seem, was considered a burden, referred to as 'the old man' at 43 years of age.

The party of 8 split into two parties of 4 over the return course. Wood, Buck, Wilson and Seabring would head up the Eel as far as possible then south toward settlements. Gregg, Van Duzen, Southard and Truesdale would strike south along the coast to San Francisco. This group, finding coastal progress too difficult, headed inland toward the Sacramento Valley.

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THANK YOU NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

Bruce Rupp
 Byrd Lochtie
 Carlonna Buchholz
 Carly Marino & Chris Valness
 Carol Sandretto-Unsinger
 Carolyn Burns
 Carolyn Smith
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 Yvonne Randle

Many thanks to DG Fairhaven Power for their assistance in parts and labor to keep the heat on for the museum's fantastic exhibits and patrons.

THE CLARKE MUSEUM IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!

Do you like working with children? The Clarke Historical Museum is seeking volunteers to work as tour guides and outreach docents. If you are interested in history and would like the opportunity to work in a museum setting, please contact us today. Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, learn new skills and build your resume. The museum is also looking for volunteers and artists to assist in creating educational booklets for school tours. Contact Amber at 443-1947 or clarkehistorical@att.net for more information.

WALKING TO HUMBOLDT BAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

A few days before they reached settlements, Dr. Gregg dropped from his saddle and died a few hours later—apparently of starvation. The weather and other material conditions facing Wood's group were as severe as ever—snow, lack of food, etc. Attempting to kill members of a group of grizzly bears for food, Wood was attacked by two of them and nearly killed. He survived by playing dead until the bears lost interest in him and left the scene. Wood suffered a dislocated hip and many superficial wounds. Woods' hip injury caused him agonizing leg pain whenever he attempted to move or was shifted by others. He asked to be left behind to die but his 3 compatriots refused to abandon him. The party eventually reached the Russian River and, following it, the Sonoma valley. They arrived at the Mark West ranch on 02/17/1850, 3 months and 12 days after their departure from Rich Bar. Wood spent six weeks recuperating in the solicitous care of the West family and then made his way to SF. His confrontation with the grizzlies left him crippled for life.

The title of Wood's "narration", "The Discovery of Humboldt Bay", engages a conceit still often implicit to some degree. Obviously, what we call, 'Humboldt Bay', had been "discovered" and lived beside for many centuries prior to the unfolding of the events recalled above. The incursion of white settlement, however, for better or worse, did follow the event. Subsequently, returning to Humboldt Bay, Wood prospered, becoming a leading citizen of Union-Arcata, marrying and raising a large family. Members of that family who now live in Oregon recently donated a copy of Wood's narrative to the Clarke Museum, along with other items which belonged to one or another of his many descendants.



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Clarke Historical Museum
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