

# Trail Talk



A Newsletter of the California-Nevada Chapter  
of the  
Oregon-California Trails Association

Number 82

June 2009

## 2009 CALENDAR OF TRAIL ACTIVITIES .

June 23-24 Johnson's Cut-Off field work. Contact Ford & Ellen Osborn for details: [efosborn@calweb.com](mailto:efosborn@calweb.com) July 28-29 – Johnson's Cut-Off field work. August 4-5 – Johnson's Cut-Off field work. September 21-25 – Johnson's Cut-Off field work. September 30 Echo Summit to Lake Valley hike. October 27-28 – Johnson's Cut-Off field work.

July 20-21 – Trail Maintenance Outing, Carson Route from Woodfords to Hope Valley. Frank Tortorich's popular annual brushing and clean-up party is limited to 25 people and may already be full – Frank will make waiting list for next year. Contact him: [Hftortorich@volcano.net](mailto:Hftortorich@volcano.net)

August 18-22 – Annual OCTA 2009 Convention, Loveland, CO. Visit: [Hwww.OCTA-Colorado.org](http://www.OCTA-Colorado.org)

July – November – Nobles Trail Mapping. BLM – OCTA project, contact Leslie Fryman for details.

## TRAILS WEST ACTIVITIES

June 19-20, 2009 -- Field trip starts near Vya, NV.

June 27, 2009 – Board Meeting, Reno

September 11-13, 2009 – Field Trip near Alturas, CA. Visit: [www.emigranttrailswest.org](http://www.emigranttrailswest.org)

## OLD WAGON AND BURRO CART FOUND

### AT MYSTERY LAKE by David Freeman

*(Some names have been changed to protect the location – Editors)*

I wander the woods when I can find the time. I have done it my whole life. I grew up in the high country of Yosemite during the summers. After moving to Northern California I made the Lassen Forest area the focus of my poking and snooping.

In October 1988, a year of significant drought, I was in the park with my two sons and a friend. We had camped at Mystery Lake and the boys and friend had left back to the trailhead. I finished breaking down camp and on the way out wandered down to the low shore line of Mystery Lake. The mud at the South end was really slippery and I was hopping from rock to rock. I was heading for a large singular rock before hitting the trail and catching up with the boys. As the mud got worse I stopped dead in my tracks to see that the big rock I was trying to get to was an old wagon!

It was a small but stoutly built wagon which was sunk up to the reach. All wheels were intact, as was the wagon. The front wheels were above the wagon sides and just a bit smaller than the rear wheels. The wagon was left next to a good size spring on the lake bottom. In 1988 it looked like it had just been left there, almost as brand new. I did not carry a camera, as I went very light into the woods. I did, however, make some solid fixes on some nearby terrain to

*Continued on Page 7*

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**E-News:** the CA-NV Chapter offers rapid communication of announcements and chapter news via private email, through Googlegroups. If you would like to be included in this group, email Mary Ann Tortorich, [Hwagnwhel@volcano.net](mailto:Hwagnwhel@volcano.net).



**. . . Along The Way**

We asked for candidates for the Board of Directors, and three of you responded for the two available positions. This resulted in the closest of races as noted elsewhere in these pages. Thanks to those of you who took time to return your ballots. And a special thank you to Dick, Vince and Mike for being candidates. Now we need to have more of you stepping forward in the near future. If you noticed in the Election Special of *News From the Plains*, there are no candidates for the National Board from either California or Nevada. And while directors are not elected from geographical districts, it would be nice to have someone from the largest chapter representing us nationally.

Growing up in Stockton meant taking the occasional trip to the Bay Area to visit relatives and play tourist...in a '36 Ford. We had the option of taking Hwy 50 through Tracy and the Altamont, or Hwy 4 across the Delta to Concord, Walnut Creek and the Caldecott Tunnel into Oakland. But Dad knew another route which added a bit more adventure. We could leave Hwy 4 at Byron and find the Marsh Creek Road which followed the creek upstream to the northern slopes of Mt. Diablo. From there it was a short drive through the village of Clayton and on into Walnut Creek and an ice cream parlor.

On that drive one of the sights was a mysterious old stone mansion on the creek, not too far from Byron. It often seemed to be abandoned, but we never did have time to stop and learn more about it. Spending much of my adult life in the East Bay area, I eventually learned that this mansion was the home of John Marsh, who settled there in 1837, preceding even the central valley residence of John Sutter.

I recently received a mailing from the John Marsh Historic Trust (I think most OCTA members in California did.) and was amazed at what has developed since I left the East Bay 12 years ago. The house and surrounding land are now a state park, plans are underway for restoration and a new Hwy 4 bypass is routed nearby. ([www.JohnMarshHouse.com](http://www.JohnMarshHouse.com))

The segue—finally—is that this was the destination of the Bidwell-Bartleson emigrant party of 1841. Marsh had written letters to Bidwell and others, and they struck out not knowing much more than to follow the parallel west from Missouri. (Yes, Thomas Fitzpatrick did lead them with Father De Smet's group as far as Soda Springs, Idaho.) And where did the emigrants meet the Humboldt River? Just west of Elko, site of our 2010 national convention and location of BLM's new California National Historic Trail Interpretive Center. *Continued page 3*

. . . Along The Way (cont.)

It's time to read—or reread—Doyce Nunis' book on the Bidwell-Bartleson Party. I also recommend Chapter Member Dave Johnson's 2006 book titled Sonora Pass Pioneers. Although only 10 pages are devoted to B-B, the maps depicting the route from the Carson River to present day Sonora are the best interpretations I have seen.

And, finally and foremost, please consider working on the Elko convention. The Convention Planning Committee met in Elko May 29, and there are many opportunities for your talents, skills and interests in this important chapter endeavor.

See you in Loveland in August!

Bob Evanhoe, President, CA-NV Chapter, OCTA

## Here's a Recap of the Election Results...

Three candidates vied for two positions on the CA-NV OCTA Board of Directors. Richard (Dick) Young received 174 votes; Vince Correll, 118 and Michael (Mike) Trueblood, 117. The ballots were counted three times by members of the nominating committee, John Winner and Jim Allison.

Ballot statistics are as follows: 424 ballot envelopes mailed, including family memberships with two ballots enclosed. 156 ballot envelopes received, containing 208 ballots. With 424 households representing 586 total members, this was approximately a 35% turnout.

All ballots and tally sheets were signed and dated by the counting members of the nominating committee, and will be available for inspection and review if desired.

The chapter thanks Dick and Vince for agreeing to serve the organization for the next three years. As both a relatively new and younger member of the chapter, we appreciate Mike's enthusiasm and strong showing in the election. We look forward to working with him in chapter activities, as we do with Dick and Vince in the governing of the chapter. ~



## ELKO SET FOR 2010 CONVENTION

by Jan Petersen, Convention Chair

Elko is gearing up for the 2010 OCTA National Convention. The theme is **Emigrants, Elko & THE Elephant!** Dates for the convention are set for August 10-14. The primary meetings for speakers and workshops will be headquartered at the Elko Convention Center in the heart of Elko. Rooms have been secured at several hotels, and we promise you will eat well too!

Tours are planned for points east of Elko in Ruby Valley and Humboldt Wells; and west to Gravelly Ford. A hiking tour is planned over part of the Green Horn Cutoff. Please be aware that all tours will be dependent on the weather and current fire conditions.

Short side trips will also be offered for Lamoille Canyon (a Scenic Byway), a tour of Newmont's gold mine north of Carlin and a tour to Tuscarora, an 1870s mining town, now the home of several artists.

The Convention will begin Wednesday with registration and an engaging speaker. Workshops will be offered in the afternoon at the Northeastern Nevada Museum and the California Trail Center. Chapters will meet and greet in the afternoon followed by a reception opening the Book Room, giving OCTA members the opportunity to meet authors and buy books to add to their collections.

Thursday we'll board busses and tour northeastern Nevada east and west to see parts of the California Trail and hear stories that will bring the emigrant  
*continued on page 5*

# GOOD TIDINGS FROM THE CHAPTER'S LIBRARY COMMITTEE

By Don Buck

The big news from the Library Committee is the generous donation of Charlie Little's fabulous Western Americana library to our Chapter and the *Western Overland Trails Collection* (WOTC) at the California State Library in Sacramento. Charlie passed away last August and as a member of the Chapter Library Committee, it was his wish that his trail library be donated to the OCTA trails collection (WOTC). Our sincere thanks goes to Charlie's family (Nola Little, Nancy Lancaster, and Frank Hagie) for making this important donation possible. Their enthusiastic support is very much appreciated.

After much planning and preparation, on Feb. 22 an OCTA seven-member work party sorted out and boxed about 1400 publications, primarily for the WOTC at the California State Library (700 publications in 26 boxes), and also for Don Buck to store temporarily for auctions (400 publications in 12 boxes) and several hundred periodicals donated to the U.C. Davis library (in 4 boxes).

We owe the Sunday volunteer work party many thanks (Dick Brock, Don Buck, Chuck Dodd, John & Norma Haner, Joe Molter, and Alison Portello). Along with the Little family, they worked hard all day Sunday at the Little residence sorting and boxing Charlie's extensive overland trails and Western Americana library. Dick Brock trucked the 26 boxes in a U-Haul trailer from Redding to the state library on Monday morning, Feb. 23, where Jim Allison joined us to help off-load the boxes. Also on Monday, Alison Portello delivered 4 boxes of periodicals to the U.C. Davis library. Don Buck returned home with 12 boxes for temporary storage (he hopes).

The books delivered to the CSL were those we thought the state library would want for the OCTA trails collection. Any the state library doesn't want will be sold, the proceeds of which go to purchasing other desired books through the OCTA Fund within the California State Library Foundation (that's how money donations are handled for the state library). The books we thought the CSL would not want, because they had duplicate copies, ended up at Don Buck's home where they are being sorted out for sale in book auctions at Chapter gatherings. The proceeds from

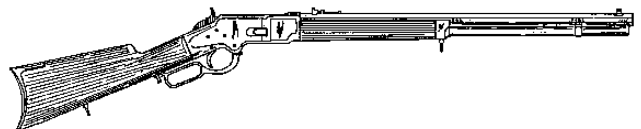
the books auctions also will go to the OCTA Fund within the California State Library Foundation.

With the state budget crisis severely impacting the CSL, these money infusions into the OCTA Fund will be the only way the CSL can purchase new books and other desired publications for the Chapter WOTC. We are greatly indebted to the Charlie Little donation that makes this cash infusion possible. The Library Committee got off to a good start at the March Jackson Symposium where 85 surplus publications from the Little library donation were auctioned. The silent auction and live auction, conducted by maestro John Winner, netted the OCTA trail collection \$1,870. In addition, the Chapter Board previously had authorized an annual donation of \$500 to the trail collection. So far this year, we're off to a good beginning with the Chapter raising \$2,370 for its collection at the CSL.

Left in the Little donation are several trail categories of surplus publications for future auctions at Chapter functions. One category doesn't apply to our emigrant trails, about 35 books on the maritime gold rush to California. Anyone knowing an individual or library source that might be interested in these seafaring publications, please contact Don Buck. In the Little donation are about 130 surplus publications focusing on the California Trail in Nevada and California, items that established research libraries would have.

This basic California Trail collection, however, caught the eye of the BLM that manages the new California National Historic Trail Interpretive Center outside of Elko. The Trail Center has plans for a research library and the management has indicated interest in the California Trail publications now available from the Charlie Little donation. The Trail Center will be an important part of the OCTA convention at Elko in 2010. ~

***(For additional information, read more on Charles Little on page 5)***



**Elko Convention** -- continued from page 3

experiences to life. Dinner will be under the trees in Lamoille Grove.

Friday's lineup offers speakers and workshops to sharpen our skills and interests. Dinner will be at Great Basin College with Dr. Michael Fischer, head of Nevada's Cultural Affairs presenting a Chautauqua performance of early cattleman and Nevada Governor John Sparks.

The convention will wind up Saturday with tours of Ruby Valley and the Humboldt Wells area and Gravelly Ford (for those who want to see both places, you can!) or Tuscarora, or a hiking tour to one of our high mountain lakes above Lamoille Canyon. (It's an easy hike; if I can do it, almost anyone can). A delicious Basque dinner will be served at Elko's newly opened California Trail Center.

Post convention tours are in the works also...so stay tuned for ongoing announcements!

We've got a full and exciting line up for those visiting Elko during the 2010 convention. The area has some of the most pristine ruts left, and we're eager to show them off to you and let you experience them for yourself.

Probably the most exciting experience of all will be seeing the new California Trail Center just west of Elko. The first exhibit installations took place in May of 2009 and were ready for California Trail Days on May 29 & 30. As funding becomes available...more will be installed. It's quite exciting to watch this project evolve!

The CA/NV Chapter eagerly invites all OCTA members-- and non members- - to come to Elko in August 2010 to experience **Emigrants, Elko and THE Elephant!**



## The Charles Little Collection

by Shann Rupp

Charlie Little was a collector of many things ranging from swizzle sticks to antique furniture. He also collected overland documents, the extent to which OCTA members probably are not totally aware. He was a member of the CA-NV Chapter Library Committee, overseeing the Western Overland Trails Collection at the California State Library. Those on that committee knew Charlie had a collection, but perhaps didn't realize how voluminous it was. Upon Charlie's passing in August, 2008, Don Buck headed a volunteer group which made several trips to Nola Little's home in Redding to help sort out what was to go to the State Library and what was to go to Census of Overland Emigrant Documents (COED).

Charlie and Nola traveled all over this country collecting documents, and the result was that six shelves of a closet in their home were filled with boxes containing documents which Charlie had copied from various libraries. The Littles' daughter, Nancy, loaded up the 26 boxes from the closet and took them to her home in Elk Grove, where Bill and I loaded the boxes into our pickup and took them to Jamestown. The boxes now have become temporary "residents" in our living room until such time as the inventorying is complete. The project affectionately has been dubbed The Closet. (Even though we saw the room built to house Charlie's collection, it wasn't until I worked on this project that I understood what a tremendously large library Charlie had. The researching and copying he did were enormous!)

*continued on page 6*

## Little Collection -- continued from page 5

First, the material that is not suitable for COED is sorted out. Remember, Charlie saved many, many topics, some trail related, others western history. All the documents in each box are then listed, and, with the help of Sharon Manhart and Cherie Evanhoe, a determination is made about which ones have not already been surveyed. Then, the documents to be surveyed are copied, to be mailed to surveyors. That way there is no chance of losing the copies that belong to the Little Collection. The National Frontier Trails Museum will select what they need of The Closet before it is offered to another repository.

COED was running out of material to survey, so this new supply is most welcome. It will help fuel the Paper Trail. Former or inactive surveyors' interested in helping to survey in this project, please contact me, Shann Rupp, at [syr50@sbcglobal.net](mailto:syr50@sbcglobal.net) or (209) 984-3401. ~

## 2010 CONVENTION COMMITTEE MEETS IN ELKO FOR TRAIL DAYS

By Bob Evanhoe

BLM's California National Historic Trail Interpretive Center in Elko hosted its third annual Trail Days on May 29 and 30. Nearly 800 guests toured the Center which seems to exhibit progress toward completion on a daily basis. One of the newest and most interesting items is a working wagon wheel odometer, patterned after those used on the trails.

Visitors were greeted to presentations ranging from Native Life, including a Shoshone welcoming ceremony, to Exploration—trappers and explorers—to Gold Rush Times—emigrants, music and military—and the inclusion of Dixon Ford and his ox team.

With the death of Thor in January 2007, Mr. Ford chose another Red Durham Bull and has trained him to partner with Zeus. Since the new recruit is named Ruff, Zeus has been renamed Reddy. Sadly, Mr. Ford has indicated he will retire at the end of this season. The loss of Thor, whom Mr. Ford says was the key to the success of

the team, created a vacuum which has not been filled. Several OCTA activities and conventions have been enlightened by the participation of Dixon Ford and his highly trained team. Thank you, Guys, for spending time with us.

Members of the 2010 Convention committee met with Chair Jan Petersen and OCTA Business Manager Travis Boley while in Elko. Current efforts are focused on the Chapter's convention display in Loveland this August. Joining the committee of Joyce Everett, Leslie Fryman, Cherie and Bob Evanhoe were Jim Allison and Mike Trueblood. Mr. and Mrs. Elko OCTA, Bob and Pat Pearce, were also in attendance during Trail Days.

Volunteers are needed for the Chapter's display in Loveland. Volunteers will be responsible for greeting guests, promoting the Elko Convention and selling convention products. More volunteers mean shorter shifts. Contact the chapter at: [canvocta@sbcglobal.net](mailto:canvocta@sbcglobal.net) or P.O. Box 1521, Yreka, CA 96097.~

## **Mystery Lake – continued from page 1**

make it possible to find this drowned wagon again. I also knew that the old Nobles Trail was just 2-3 miles to the north.

The Monday after I had returned home, I called Lassen Forest about my find. They sent me to a fellow who said that what I had found was “impossible!” Oh, and by the way “don’t loot it!” He then actually told me to “go away!” So much for the NFS. And go away I did.

Two years later I stumbled onto another wagon. It is about 20 miles to the north of the Mystery Lake wagon and has not been protected from the elements by a lake. It was sadly, a pile of rusty metal and rotten wood. This wagon was on USFS land so I contacted them. The Susanville USFS office was also unreceptive to knowing about a wagon on their property. The cultural resources fellow there had more important business. Later research showed that this second wagon was most likely a younger trade wagon on the nearby Lockhart trail to Oregon. Apparently this wagon was also not worth anyone’s bother.

In 2007, I was injured and had some time to maybe stir up some interest in the Mystery Lake wagon again. I contacted the current Lassen NFS cultural resource person Karen Hanner, who said to get some photos and a GPS fix, and we would go from there. Wow, someone from Lassen Forest was interested! Well, being injured I did not get to the Lake that fall. Located very deep in the lake, the only hope of seeing the wagon is in the late fall in a very dry year.

This October (2008), my wife and I made the walk into Mystery Lake to get some photos of the wagon if it was visible. This was a very dry year and I was hoping for a glimpse. Upon reaching the shore of the Lake, it was clearly evident that the lake level was much higher than it was in 1988. But we were there and

decided to see if the wagon could be seen through the water.



*Remains of the Burro Cart*

As in 1988, the low water level exposed a large mud flat in the south end of the lake where numerous springs bubbled water. Next to one of these little springs we came upon the remains of a burro cart. The wheel spokes and the curved wooden felloes of the burro cart lay scattered about. Some of the spokes were in such good shape that you could still see where a wheelwright made marks with a sharp knife to trace the joint onto the spoke junction. One of the iron rims was missing or was still in the mud. It appeared that someone had recently stood this relic up for all to see. We took some photos, made two good GPS markings and headed for the still submerged wagon. We found it was still under at least 10 feet of water, maybe more. We then gave up and headed back to for the trailhead. *Continued on Page 8*

The following week I sent an email to Karen Hanner about the burro cart find and she responded that it was great news! I informed her that the light weight little burro cart is very exposed and was in jeopardy being removed. One rim may already be gone. At no time does Karen Hanner ask for the location or show any interest in the location of the cart. And then she handed me off to her boss Louise Johnson.

After not hearing from Louise Johnson for a week, I called her at Lassen Forest. Ms. Johnson is not the least bit interested in anything to do with the discoveries at Mystery Lake. She clearly states she does not have time for this, but might get back to me. She does not ask or want photos or even locations of the artifacts.

Why would there be a wagon and cart at the bottom of a Lake? There is any number of reasons that emigrants or settlers would abandon a wagon – the animals pulling it may have given out, it may have become mired in mud, or it may have become too unwieldy for traveling through the dense forest and rocky areas. If the wagon and cart aren't from the emigrant era, they may have been abandoned near the springs by settlers or campers prior to the 1912 eruption of Lassen Peak.

The Nobles Trail passes Mystery Lake 2-3 miles to the north, by the base of Cinder Cone from 1850-1855, and was later shortened by a bypass to the north of Prospect Peak. The double track swales of the original wagon road are still visible to this day in the nearby cinder field. During this time, the springs at the Lake may have been a camping area where emigrants had access to good water as well as grass for livestock.

Additionally, the wagon and cart are at a location that is only dry land in a drought; accordingly, they had to be abandoned there during a drought period. According to Bancroft's *History of California*, the droughts in California come in 13-year cycles; in this case, 1850-51, 1863-64 and 1876-77 (Bancroft 1890, Vol. VII, page 15). Of note, the drought of

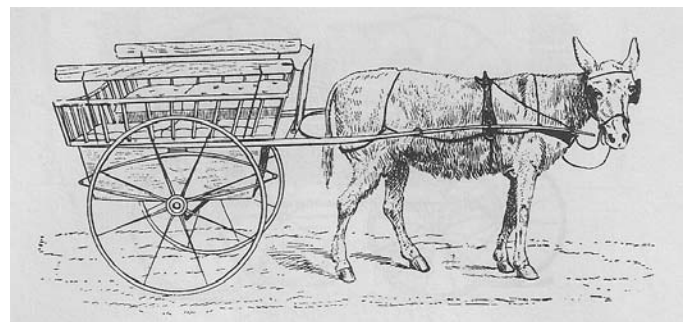
1863-64 was extreme and was the subject of many period newspaper articles in California. It changed the state from a primarily cattle state to a sheep-based state.

Next, the peak of Nobles Trail activity, according to personnel at Old Shasta State Historic Park, was on or near 1863. "Old Shasta" was the terminus of the Nobles Trail. The emigrants would generally be arriving in the Lassen area in the fall when all lakes and streams were at their lowest.

Even without a drought, it was not uncommon for emigrants to venture several miles from the trail seeking grass and water. From the top of Cinder Cone near Bidwell Lake, the constant little meadow at the south end of Mystery Lake can be easily seen. Diary entries show that Cinder Cone was climbed by many travelers of the Noble's Trail.

So how did the wagons get to Mystery Lake from the Nobles Trail? The only way to the Lake from the Nobles Trail would be to travel along the east shore of Bidwell Lake. But the east shore is flanked with a slope right down to the water's edge.

While in a normal rainfall year there is no viable passage along this slope, in a dry year a wonderful natural cobblestone-like "road" appears along the east shore of the Lake. Also, there are at least two visible stretches of an old road or wagon trail at the south end of the Lake, heading to Mystery Lake.



*Burro Cart*

*Continued on Page 9*



*Road Remnant on Lake Bottom*

How did they get back to the Nobles Trail from Mystery Lake? On the way out of the Lake, the same issue of lack of trail exists on the only way back to the Nobles trail to the wagon train. The West side of Mystery Lake is right up against another sidehill during normal years. But in a drought year another perfectly usable "road" appears in the lake bottom.

But how could a lightweight burro cart be an emigrant artifact? An entry in the 1855-56 Roop Hotel register, printed in *Fairfield's Pioneer History of Lassen County California to 1870* (1916), indicates a buggy abandoned near Mud Springs on the Noble Trail in 1856. This buggy was only four days travel from the Mystery Lake site on the trail. A buggy would have the same lightweight wheel and hub as a burro cart. Also in this hotel registry, numbers of emigrants and their stock were recorded as they passed through Susanville. Almost all emigrant wagon trains had a burro or two. With what is known, it would be possible for a cart to realistically make the journey to Mystery Lake from the east,

If these are emigrant vehicles or vehicles of some later visitors, they are still important to us all. They are snapshots of this area in a very precise moment in time - October or early November of 1850-51, 1863-64 or 1876-77

The budding town of Susanville used the nearby trail to shuttle back and forth to the settlement of Shasta (Redding), and all indications are that the traffic was heavy. The wagon and cart were headed to Shasta (Redding). If they were enroute to Red Bluff(s), then the path would have been near Chester.

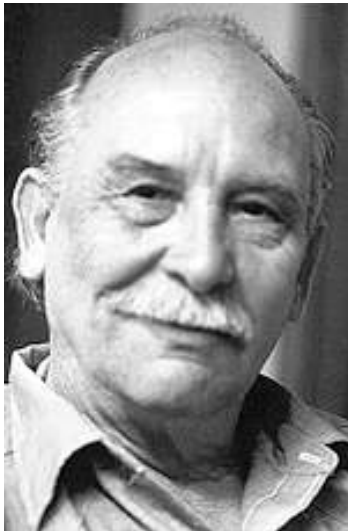
I do not believe the wagon and cart date to the 1850-51 drought year, as this seems too close to the founding of the Nobles Trail. I favor the fall of 1864. This was the peak of an epic drought and the height of traffic on the trail. Grass and water supplies along this route would have been at utmost scarcity and travelers would divert far from the trail in order to save their stock. It is expected that some would use a part of the older trail at this time of need.

Without oxen, mules, horses, or even a lowly burro, a traveler must carry the provisions needed to live on his back. The supply of food that can be carried in this fashion is quite limited, especially when going over the summits of the Sierra Nevada.

Finally, I do not understand the complete lack of interest from Lassen National Forest staff in regard to these artifacts. No one from the agency has even asked for a proper location. The two sites are about a quarter mile apart on the Mystery Lake mud flat, a large area when the lake is low. The lightweight burro cart can easily be carried out of the area by two people and needs immediate protection. The intact wagon is a very rare artifact and really should be treated as such. ~



## AND WE REMEMBER . . .



Wallace Darwin Hardie, 80, died March 27 at home in Selma, Ore.

Wally was born Jan. 30, 1929, in Grass Valley and raised in Allegheny. His father, Dr. Wallace B. Hardie, was the town doctor. His mother, Frieda Hardie, was born in Allegheny in 1900. His family moved to Dutch Flat in 1941. He graduated from Placer High School in 1947.

## Letter to the Editor . . .

Dear Chapter Presidents:

Jane Leche, who is in charge of entertainment at the forthcoming Loveland convention, has asked me to contact you regarding the OCTA Band. We would appreciate it if you would include an item in your newsletter or forward this message to your members, and ask them to contact Jane if they are interested in performing with the band at the 2009 convention. They should include information on what instrument they play and their contact information.

He joined the Navy in 1948 and saw active combat during the Korean War. He was attached to the 82nd Airborne as liaison in the battle for Chin-Nam-PO. They were under daily fire for a period of two weeks. He was so decorated.

He began his college education at the College of the Pacific in Stockton and completed it at San Francisco State, where he began working for The North American Insurance Company. He later joined the H.S. Crocker Company and moved to Citrus Heights. In 1977 he and his wife Joan moved to Grass Valley where they raised their children. Wally and Joan retired to Selma, Oregon in 2001.

He was a member of Gold Country Trails, where he helped build and maintain trails and horse camps, including improvement on the Pacific Crest Trail. As a Trails West and O.C.T.A. member, he helped mark the Overland Pioneer Trails from Idaho to California and Oregon

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Joan. ~



Jane's address is: myaj57@gmail.com. Phone: 303-881-3523.

Camille Bradford, Colorado Convention Chair ~



# OUCH!!!

Well, we editors of *Trail Talk* were extremely disappointed in the response we got from some of our readers over the name changes we made. Really folks, we thought some of you would appreciate the new names we gave you.

Ok, since you didn't like the new names, we will go back to your previous 'nomen'.

Confession: Things happened when the Chapter President, Bob, sends the mailing guy, Dave, a new mailing list with the latest changes. Some names on the list needed to be deleted and that started

an unintended shift in the 'first name' column.

So, a bunch of you received 'new' first names. Of course, I blame Bob for this fiasco, he blames me. No doubt dueling pistols at 10 paces will settle the matter. Leslie remains blameless since she was out of town. What?

Sorry, we hope we got it right with this mailing . . .

FOR MEMBERSHIP, INQUIRIES OR *TRAIL TALK* SUBMISSIONS  
Contact the Chapter at: CA-NV OCTA Chapter , P.O. Box 1521  
Yreka, CA 96097; or EMAIL: [canvocta@sbcglobal.net](mailto:canvocta@sbcglobal.net)



Donner Pass in the late 1860s. Note Central Pacific Railroad construction tents on far right of photo and the Chinese walls prior to back filling. The Dutch Flat Road is on the left. Donner Lake is barely visible in the center background.

### ***TRAIL TALK INDEX***

- **MYSTERY LAKE - FRONT**
- **ACTIVITIES - FRONT**
- **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE - 2**
- **ELECTION RESULTS - 3**
- **ELKO CONVENTION - 3 & 6**
- **WOTC LIBRARY REPORT - 4**
- **CHARLES LITTLE - 5**
- **WE REMEMBER - 10**
- **LETTER TO EDITOR - 10**
- **APOLOGY & RARE PHOTO - 11**

### ***TRAIL TALK ARTICLE DEADLINES***

September 15 for the  
October Issue  
January 15 for the  
February Issue  
May 15 for the June  
Issue

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